

SOCER ACTION

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JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ ΣΕΛΙΣ:15



A new State League?

Ajax president Guy Spiteri has forthright ideas on revolutionising Victoria's State League soccer.

He is not happy about talk of extending the Victorian State League to 16 clubs. Spiteri argues the league should be reduced in size, 'owing to the inexperience and the lack of ability of some of the present State League clubs.'

Spiteri suggests:

- Stop the proliferation of clubs within the metropolitan area and encourage amalgamation.

- Stop junior games being played at the same time as State League games.

- Stop Industrial League games being played on Sundays.

- Be more choosy with regard to State League membership.

- Demand that State League clubs improve their existing facilities, both ground and social.

- Selected junior players between the ages of 16 and 21 be tied by a five-year apprenticeship scheme with their clubs.

- The VSF should employ a top notch promotions man, his salary to be paid 50 percent by the federation and 50 percent from a levy imposed on State League clubs.

After 15 rounds, a 16 team State League should split into two groups — a championship and relegation zone. Then, the next 15 games should be played along these lines: The top eight clubs play each other twice for the championship; the bottom eight play each other twice to decide the relegation issue.



Old mates George Campbell (left) and Doug Brown (right) swapped clubs last Thursday and played against each other three days later.

It was disastrous for Campbell, memorable for Brown.

Campbell, who switched from Hellas to Makedonia, found himself on the end of a 0-4 hiding. Brown, who moved from Makedonia to Hellas, contributed to that whalloping by scoring two goals within a one-minute period.

Hellas paid Makedonia a \$2500 fee for Brown (18 goals in two seasons) as well as transferring Campbell (17 goals in five seasons).

Brown and Campbell were team mates with Aberdeen in Scotland, and flat-mates for a year.

This week, Brown will look for more goals against Marconi, while Campbell hopes to emulate his mate's efforts when Makedonia meets Footscray J.U.S.T. at Schintler Reserve on Sunday.

PHOTO BY LES SHORROCK.

Fire victims won't get full value

Even Victorian Soccer Federation officials are upset over coach Len McKendry's approach to a charity match to raise money for Victorian bushfire victims.

The game, between a State League selection and a National League selection, will be played at Olympic Park today (Wednesday) at 8.15pm.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

The NSL team, on the other hand, is a much more sensible selection, comprising four players from each of the four clubs — Hellas, Makedonia, JUST and Heidelberg-Alexander.

The State League squad features seven players from Ajax

whereas two would have attracted the Ajax fans just as well. It features three Croats players, and the other clubs represented are Croydon, Sunshine-George Cross, Doveton and Box Hill.

Clubs not represented are: Juventus, Hellas, Fawkner, Wilhelmmina, Albion Rovers, Footscray, Northcote and Morwell Falcons. These clubs represent at least 4000 regular soccer spectators. Even if one can expect only 10 per cent of them at a charity game, then at \$5 a head, the bushfire victims are being deprived of \$2000. That's the absolute minimum. It's probably much more.

As it appears, this game seems to be less a charitable exercise than a victory vehicle for McKendry and the hardcore of his former State side.

I spoke to VSF officials who agreed that the game should have been much more representative. "But it's up to the coach," they added, apologetically.

SEE CRAIG MACKEN-

TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT!

Wednesday March 9th.

The Glasgow Celtic Supporters Club of Victoria will screen 'The Celtic Story' at 7.30 pm at the Wayside Inn, City Road, South Melbourne.

Admission is only \$3

Send \$5 to the Bushfire Appeal Fund and come to the Wayside Inn and enjoy the story of your favourite club with a clear conscience!

By Alex Vesic

The VSF and NSL last week sent a telegram to the Prime Minister, Minister for Communications, Leader of the Opposition as well as the Shadow Minister for Communications and Shadow Minister for Sport, indicating soccer's disengagement with the ABC.

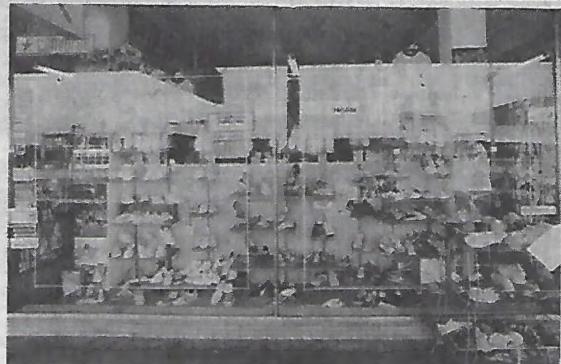
The ABC has refused to cover the NSL because of the VSF failure to guarantee the ABC rights to international soccer played in Australia.

The ASF recently signed a four year contract with the Seven Network to televise Australia's international matches. A commercial network has signed to satisfy the needs of ASF sponsor West Natty which has signed a \$3 million deal over four years to help Australia on its path to qualifying for the 1986 World Cup. It was indicated to the ABC that Australia could not

seriously participate in international soccer without such sponsorship. At the same time, the ASF decided that the commercial value of the NSL was not sufficient to warrant commercial TV.

The recent Dix report recommended that the ABC should, by reason of its public obligations, cover those sports which are either not commercially viable or are not given ample coverage in the private sector. But while the national basketball and ice hockey league enjoy coverage, soccer was told that international soccer must be a part of the package.

Continued p. 4



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Marconi's Sermann new star in NSL?

In Tommy Sermann, Marconi has acquired a player who already has made his mark in three countries and possesses the credentials to make a considerable impact in his latest environment.

Glasgow-born, Sermann had his first taste of senior soccer in the colors of Scottish second division side Albion Rovers as the 1973-74 season started.

He netted on his debut against Forfar Athletic and finished the campaign as the Coatsbridge club's leading goalscorer.

Although always more of a schemer and creator of goals than a specialist striker, and playing for a mediocre outfit, Sermann regularly appeared on the scoresheet.

Rovers struggled at the bottom end of the league ladder, yet twice reached the Scottish League Cup quarter-finals during the Glaswegian's five seasons with them, which produced 38 goals from 151 appearances.

A number of English clubs were reported to be checking on his progress before one of them, Blackpool, offered terms and the part-time player-schoolteacher became a fully-fledged professional in March, 1978.

He already had experienced playing soccer outside his native land however, for a year earlier, New Zealand's Christchurch United recruited him for a brief, but highly successful, stint as a guest player.

Marconi recruit Tommy Sermann.

Unfortunately, Blackpool was in the midst of its most miserable period in its history when Sermann joined. Once a long established force in the First Division, it slipped from Second to Fourth Division in four seasons.

The Scot was given little opportunity to help turn the tide, playing just 10 first team games before transferring to Torquay United after only 17 months in Lancashire.

Sermann quickly proved his worth at Torquay — a town noted for being the home of "Fawley Towers" and flawed football. Converted into a cultured, probing midfielder, he was appointed team captain in his first season.

A serious cartilage injury only became a bothersome interruption to Sermann's career, but the grave financial state of English soccer almost ended it.

In April, 1982, the majority of Torquay's playing staff were shed, including the skipper.

Sermann had become dis-

enchanted long before then. Early in the season, the Devon club led the Fourth Division but the transfer of key players snuffed all promotion ambitions and the Gulls slumped back into their customary lowly position.

Torquay's policy may have kept it in the black, but it was no recipe for success on the pitch.

Another short spell with Christchurch United restored Sermann's appetite for the game and prompted speculation that his future lay in New Zealand, but it was not to be and the linkman, somewhat reluctantly, returned to Scotland and, he feared, the blackboard jungle.

The Caledonian had few reservations about signing then when Marconi approached him late last year. A dedicated performer, who never gives less than his best, the 29 year old well could be the cornerstone of Marconi's bid for honors in 1983.

Watson was to make 25 appearances with Oxford, before a \$40,000 transfer took him to Carlisle United.

— PAUL MOON

KB's Watson joins youth exodus to Oz

By PAUL MOON

Old England youth internationals, it appears, do not fade away — they move to Australia!

Neil Banfield, Ian Buckley, Les Carter, Alan Evans, Alan Whittle and Eric Young already have made their presence felt here and now Newcastle KB United's latest recruit, Gary Watson, has swelled the ranks of former English junior representatives "down under".

Watson was called up by his country in November, 1978, for the Monte Carlo Youth Tournament and played against Portugal, Yugoslavia, Spain and Italy. Teammates included John Lukic (Leeds United), Bob Hindmarsh (Sunderland), Clive Allen (QPR), Steve McCall (Ipswich Town), Mike Fillery (Chelsea), Gary Shaw (Aston Villa) and Wayne Clarke (Wolverhampton Wanderers); all now well established in the English game.

He played 30 first team games for the Cumbrians before falling out of favor with manager Bob Stoke and was given a free transfer in April, 1982.

The six footer, who will be 22 on March 2, can play equally effectively at left back or in the center of defence. If KB coach Ken Kaiser can produce the best from him, Watson will be a tremendous asset for the cold gold boys.



New player for the "Bear-gers"

She got a real kick out of it

LAUGHS WITH THE DOC

By JOE DOCHERTY



Now Rudi's in Fiji



The latest stop on Rudi Gutendorf's world travels is Fiji.

Having left Nepal, where he was coaching as part of a FIFA developmental programme, Gutendorf (pictured) now has accepted the appointment as Fiji national coach.

If Australia again has to play Fiji in the next World Cup qualifying matches, Gutendorf will be able to renew old acquaintances — bitter as they may be.

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Yelling to the young girl to stay calm and on the count of three let go, Billy prepared himself for the ultimate act of bravery.

The crowd counted to three, the child let go, then plummeted to the ground.

As she fast approached the concrete path, Billy launched himself into a mighty leap to his left (just as he'd be pretty poor going down to his right), grabbed the kid and pulled her into the safety of his solid but hairless chest, rolled over a few times then leapt to his feet, the child clasped firmly in his arms.

The crowd went berserk! "Billy!! Billy!!" they chanted. There was a tumultuous roar, Billy acknowledged the crowd's adulation with a nonchalant wave of his right hand.

Then he proceeded to bounce the kid three times and booted her right up High Street.

Nae bother to our Wullie!

Bill Whiteside

• CROWD PLEASER: How about last Saturday's Buffalo Cup double header? A bonus should be paid to the lads who took part in conditions which only can be described as ultra-idiotic.

In Britain they put games off because of ice. Here we have to throw ice on to keep the game going. It is so hot the bobbles at Les Shorrock's hat started peeling.

Apparently they caught four people climbing the fence and made them come back and watch the second half.

An announcement came over the P.A. system, "here for the benefit of the players is a list of today's spectators".

Just after this things got really nasty and the crowd invaded the park and the players gave them a doing.

Athlone Rovers then graced the park and as a gesture to the fans, kicked soccer balls into the crowd. They got twelve back.

• MY TEAM: I have decided to enter a team in the National League next season, here it is: Lou Denya, Vince Bannon, Arthur McMillan, Jammy O'Reilly, Jim Tansey, Peter Bell, Dave Brooks, Jim Campbell, Peter Ollerton, Gus MacLeod, Jimmy Williams, Subie: Mick Rainey, Ged Bannon, Tommy Spalding.

The biggest hurdle I have in putting my team in the NSL is sponsorship. Here are some of the companies who have knocked the team back: Hair Chateau, Wave Length, Snip 'N' Shape, Chique Hair Centre, Louis of Italy, Caffarella De Paris and Shear success.

Sponsorship has been promised by The Ashley-Martin School of Scalp Repairers Pty. Ltd.

• CANDIDATE: All is quiet on the "Dink" frontier but Benny "Erskine" Ferrie is being closely watched. We are bringing a language expert from Pentredd University to decipher all conversations between "Erskine" and Andy "Barry Manilow" McMillan.

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The Socceroos have been criticised heavily over their two losses to New Zealand, but soccer's a funny game. You attack your opponents and put them under pressure for 90 minutes and because of a couple of defensive errors, you find yourself losing the match.

You might say we should have converted the chances we had. OK, I agree, but let's remember that New Zealand's goalkeeper, Barry Pickering, was in great form.

As far as statistics are concerned, they all went our

KAT'S CORNER
with PETER KATHOLOS



Three NSL shows on Channel 0/28

On behalf of all the players and clubs, I extend our thanks to Channel 0/28 for once again supporting the National League.

In the first game, I personally had three shots on target but every time, Pickering got in the way.

In the return match, with a bit of luck, I could have scored two goals but alas, it was not to be.

The first Match of the Day is Marconi v South Melbourne Hellas at Marconi Stadium.

The following week, Sunday, March 20, my

team, Sydney Olympic, will be featured in the Match of the Day, against South Melbourne Hellas at Middle Park.

And we're on again on Sunday, March 27, when we play mighty Sydney City at our home ground, Pratten Park.

Lee Murray, who also does the soccer from Europe and South America, will be the anchor man on all three National League shows, and the main commentators will be Mike Hill, Laurie Schwab, Tom McKain, Mark Leonard, Steve Doszpot and Tim White.

So keep tuned, fans.

Let's have sparkle

Another season gets under way at the weekend and I'm sure it will be the toughest yet.

Channel 0/28 will, in Melbourne and Sydney, show a half-hour Monday night programme of match highlights, a Friday night half-hour preview show and the Sunday night "Match of the Day".

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So keep tuned, fans.

My tips for the opening round (winners in capitals):

Heidelberg v APIA-Leichhardt (draw).

ST GEORGE v Newcastle KB.

Wollongong v Brisbane City (draw).

FOOTSCRAY JUST v Preston Makedonia.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v West Adelaide Hellas.

MARCONI v South Melbourne Hellas.

Brisbane Lions v SYDNEY CITY NAKOAH.

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VENTUS v Canberra City.



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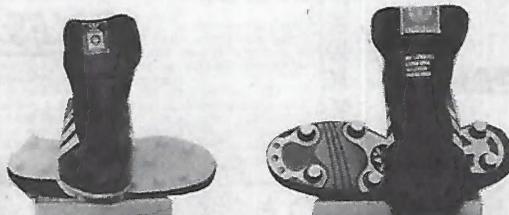
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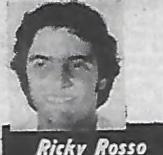


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* Cole Bennett (right) beats Heidelberg's Gary Cole in the air

Sime back-up for Bennett



Ricky Rosso

"Don't write me off yet" — that's the word from rugged Lions defender and former Socceroo stopper Col Bennett, who has not trained for more than a month because of a pinched sciatic nerve.

Bennett, an electrician, injured his back while lifting ladders prior to Christmas but has not felt the full extent of the injury only when he resumed training early in January.

Whenever the bulk-like defender went any faster than a jog he was struck by a piercing pain down his back and into his leg.

At first, he thought it was a development of a calf injury he carried without complaint for much of the second round last season. But when physiotherapy failed to cure the injury, tests revealed the pinched nerve.

Bennett was hospitalised for two weeks to allow the nerve to settle and be manipulated. After he was discharged, Bennett sought every kind of treatment from chiropractors to acupuncturists. He even tried to contact his old Western Suburbs mate Peter Wilson, to see if he had any advice after also being troubled by a back injury.

If the way Bennett approached each new suggestion of treatment were a medicine he would have been back on the park in a week, but unfor-

tunately things have not been as speedy as Bennett, and indeed Lions, would have liked and with the season fast approaching everyone has begun to write him off.

"I might not make the first couple of games but I have only missed five games in 14 years. I am not about to spoil that record," the optimistic Bennett said last week, despite still not being able to train with his team.

"I might even make a comeback as a sweeper, though about it a couple of times last year, after losing Jim Hermiston and, I think, in a sort of central half role. I could do it."

"But I don't care if I have to play centre forward or goalkeeper. I would just like to be fit enough to play again. I don't want to be a clog for the rest of my life and if the doctors say to give it away I will. But if I can get over this injury and look myself properly, I fancy my chances to keep on going for at least another couple of seasons," Bennett said.

Lions, understandably, could not afford to wait for Bennett and have been forced to search for a replacement.

"I don't want to see that goalkeeper any more," was the编成 compliment of Socceroo coach Lee Scheinflug after his side had been beaten 2-1 by New Zealand, despite creating many more scoring opportunities.

Bennett had an outstanding game in the Kiwi goal, making many superb saves. One effort in particular — clawing away a deflected shot by Alan Niven at the foot of his post, must have been particularly heart-breaking for the Australians, coming just eight minutes from time.

First representing Hutt Valley at under 8 level in 1964, he spent the next dozen years moving up through the province's grade XIs.

Entering senior football, four seasons were spent with Petone in the Central Regional League, before Pickering moved to Rothmans National Leagues Stop Out in 1977 and promptly helped his new team gain its highest ever position on the ladder — second.

In the same season, he made his debut at full representative level, appearing for the Wellington team beaten 1-0 by Northern New South Wales.

International recognition came in 12 months later in the South Korean President's Cup. The young 'keeper played against Iran, Morocco, Sing-

apore and a West German XI, earning much praise playing behind a team which often found itself outplayed.

In the following year however Pickering was relegated to third choice, with Richard Wilson and former Dundee United professional Sandy Davie favored.

That setback though was inconsequential in comparison with the traumas of 1980.

With van Hattem now on the scene, the Stop Out custodian slipped further down the ratings.

What's more, his club was relegated and the nine goals conceded in one game against Mount Wellington still stand as a league record.

A highly enjoyable tour of Northern New South Wales and Queensland with Wellington in September and October brought welcome light relief but upon returning home Pickering had to

ponder the future, for his career was now at the crossroads.

He remained in the national league accepting terms offered by Christchurch outfit Mogai United, although it meant commuting 400 kilometres each weekend from his Wellington home.

This dedication and the consistently good form he displayed for the Canterbury club, was rewarded by selection for the New Zealand B team which contested the merdeka Tournament in Kuala Lumpur. Here he faced Malaysia and Indonesia, keeping clean sheets against both.

Shortly afterwards Pickering was drafted into the World Cup squad, as cover for Wilson and van Hattem. Unfortunately a severe, recurring knee injury prevented him from challenging the established two and he remained sidelined for most of the following 18 months.

Consequently Pickering had limited opportunities to serve the Wellington-based National Mutual Miramar Rangers club, which he had joined early in 1982 but achieved match fitness in sufficient time to participate in the latter stages of the Chisholm Cup, in which Miramar reached the final.

This plus some solid performances in the Mundial build-up games against Walford and the League of Ireland, clinched his membership of the Spain bound squad, though he was only a tourist.

Only 26 last December, Pickering has the inside running in the race to be new Zealand's goalkeeper when the next World Cup campaign commences. Lee Scheinflug has not even the

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Barry Pickering

Stars back for Hakoah, Stevenson to JUST?

From page one
per. There's also Alan Davidge, a seasoned Soccerco at 21, and Carl Hartard, the human dynamo in midfield, who's also in his early twenties.

With Doug Brown joining Charlie Egan up front, Hellas looks better than Marconi in every department, and should win, especially if Marconi striker Mark Janokvits fails to recover in time from a knee injury.

Melbourne fans will flock to the local derby between Footscray J.U.S.T. and Heidelberg-Alexander at revamped Schindler Reserve, which now boasts the best playing surface in Victoria.

JUST was joined last week by striker Joe Carroll from England. Carroll played for Ringwood-Wilhelmina for part of 1982 and returned to England where he scored 11 goals in 14 matches for Northern Premier League side Morecombe. He previously played for Halifax and Oldham in England. Bulova in Hong Kong and Sacramento Gold in the US. He had a fine debut against Heidelberg in the National Cup but JUST needs still more talent, so coach Bobby McLachlan is looking at three possible recruits from interstate and Melbourne, including

midfielder John Stevenson of Hellas.

Striker Eric Sinclair of Dundee is expected to join in about five weeks, and the team will also benefit in midfield when Vlakko Belli recovers from a recent operation.

Midfielder Alex Livingston from Scottish club Albion Rovers is likely to make his debut for Makedonia and Claude Lucchesi also will return to the starting line-up.

With Graham Tuthill returning to play for JUST after a week's lay-off, and Kyri Kyriakoulos probably starting in defence instead of midfield, JUST should beat Makedonia which was thoroughly outplayed by Hellas last Sunday.

St George, beaten in the Ampol Cup final by Marconi and in the National Cup by Olympic after looking so good earlier, faces another tough test against Newcastle KB at home on Sunday.

Led by new captain Craig Mason, who scored against Al Jaschinski and boasting brilliant David Lowe up front, Newcastle has the talent to win again, despite the return of St George sweeper David Ratcliffe after a one-match suspension.

Newcastle coach Ken Kalser was so happy with his team last Sunday that he predicted Lowe, Joe Senkowski and Howard Tredinnick soon would break into the senior Soccerco squad.

New centre backs Peter Burke and Gary Watson from

first-round NSL matches on Sunday:
HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER v APIA-Leichhardt at Olympic Village, Heidelberg, 3 pm.
St George-Budapest v NEWCASTLE KB UTD at St George Stadium, 3 pm.
Wollongong v BRISBANE CITY at Viens Park, Corinal, 3 pm.
FOOTSCRAY JUST v Preston Makedonia at Schindler Reserve, 3 pm.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC v West Adelaide Hellas at Pratten Park, 3 pm.
Marconi v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS at Marconi Stadium, 3 pm.

Brisbane Lions v SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH at Richlands, 3 pm.
Adelaide City Juventus v CANBERRA CITY at Olympic Sports Field, 2.30 pm.

England performed well in their first match for Newcastle, and I expect these two, with help from Tredinnick and Ralf Mauer, to contain St George's deadly goalscorer, Dez Marson. In other words, Newcastle should beat Makedonia which was thoroughly outplayed by Hellas last Sunday.

St George, beaten in the Ampol Cup final by Marconi and in the National Cup by Olympic after looking so good earlier, faces another tough test against Newcastle KB at home on Sunday.

Tommy Docherty will be looking for more accuracy from striker Mark Ratcliffe who has had a hat-trick by half time against St George last week, yet failed to score at all.

Olympic this time meets West Adelaide Hellas, whose tall striker Paul Wormley had a dream debut against Adelaide City in the Cup, scoring the only goal of the game.

Wormley, 21, from Townsville United, was top scorer in the Queensland State League last year and previously played in England for Huddersfield and Bursley. With service from winger Graeme Heys, Wormley will be a

threat to Olympic, but I can't see any way that West Adelaide can win this one.

The brilliant Olympic midfield of Jim Patikas, Peter Katholos and Peter Raskopoulos will see that.

Patikas did so well in his two-goal performance last week, that coach Docherty predicted European scouts would be after him during the World Youth Championships in Mexico in June.

Adelaide City used youth Soccerro Joe Mullen as a substitute in its Cup match, and he came very close to scoring just after coming on. Mullen therefore is likely to be called up to partner another young player, Steve Maxwell in attack, with Les Carter and John Nyskohus providing the experience.

Adelaide City's opponent is Canberra, which is getting good value from burly striker Phil Redmond from Downer Olympic. Apparently youth Soccerro Frank Farina, a right winger, is set to join Canberra from the Institute of Sport, and we may see him in action against 'Juve'.

Tony Brennan also should be back in the Canberra team after missing last Sunday's match, so expect the brilliance of Adelaide City sweep Neil Banfield, I predict a Canberra victory.

Brisbane City is expecting a Yugoslav striker to arrive any day now, and if he makes it in time, he may play against Wollongong. Alan Hughes, formerly of Lions and APIA, also has joined Brisbane City, and Joe Cairney, who had a poor debut season in 1982, now is showing his true form. With Jim Hermiston at the helm as coach, Brisbane City looks much too strong for West Adelaide, especially with the great play of star Roy O'Connor and Roy Cotton and the hard work of midfielder Jim McBreen and Gaffney.

Heidelberg-Alexander, which has transferred-listed John Zyndron and Jamie Paton and which may have Arthur McMillan on the bench, is looking for at least one more forward but still looks capable of beating APIA at home or Sunday.

That is a tall order for any coach and I do not envy Morton his task.

On the other hand McKendry has a hard act to follow at Green Gully which had almost complete success in the past two seasons under Bobby McLachlan.

How do you top that?

One way is to win the competition undefeated. The other is to play more enterprising and entertaining soccer which pleases the eye just as much as winning pleases the heart.

I fancy winning trophies will be more on McKendry's mind.

Certainly that is what will be expected of him.

On the other hand, if he has the best players in the Victorian State League he should win trophies.

Winning does not harm any coach's reputation, no matter what the level of competition.

Ask Rale Ricci who restored his name with Blacktown City in the NSW State League last year after taking it to relegation the season before.

Yet the fact is Paton and Cole developed rapport and understanding under the tutition of McKendry, just as did other sections of the team.

Patikas' two-goal performance cuts up St. George

Syd. Olympic 3
St. George 0

Wilkerson 6, J. O'Shea 7, Marton 7.
Coliguri replaced Marton 69th min-
ute.

The scoreline was very pre-
cise in its final determination
which stated Sydney Olympic 3
St. George 0 in the National
Cup clash at St George Sta-
dium but a more correct read-
ing would have been Jim
Patikas 3 St George 0.

Youth international Patikas
destroyed the St George back-
line and toyed with the Saints
midfield through immaculate

control, blistering drives and
switches of play, as well as
scoring a double.

Under a searing sun, the
teams completed a scoreless
first half where speed ap-
peared the dominant factor
and goals of little importance.

Four minutes into the second
half, Martyn Rogers

began the series of events

which eliminated St George from the Cup in the space of
120 seconds.

His cross from the right into
the area bounced to Soper, who
grabbed the half chance with a
left foot hook into the Saints
goal. Two minutes later,
Patikas scored and any specta-
tor would travel a long way to
see it.

He played a one-two with
Gary Phillips, picked up the
return pass on the left sideline,
cut inside the area, slipped
around two defenders and
crashed a right foot drive past
keeper Terry Greedy.

Ten minutes from time, he
charged through the midfield
and from 25 metres thundered
the ball with his left foot into
the opposite side of the net.

Katholos acted as a clever
foil for Patikas and frequently
drew away some of the pres-
sure on the young interna-
tional, who was receiving
close attention from the St
George defence.

Dar Marton was unable to
cope with the heat and the
pace and was replaced
midway through the second
session, while Mark Barton
stood out as the most construc-
tive player in the Saints at-
tack.

— PETER WINDSOR

— KNUST WERNER

de Greer fails

Brisb. C. 4
Brisb. Lions 2

Scors: BC: Cairney 60th,
Tokesi 73rd, Williamson 62nd,
Glockner 50th.

BL: Kelso 34th and 47th.

Venue: Perry Park.

Crowd: 1,000.

Off: Wisker 6, Tokesi 9, Liddell 8,

Parry 7, Wilkinson 6, Pimblett 9,

Willis 6, Williamson 7, Hughes 7,

Glockner 6, Cairney 7.

Pen: 6, Marszalek 6, Skarmin 7,

Lei 6, Marszalek 6, Niven 7,

Stewart 7, Hogg 8, Wright 6, Daunt 6,

Kelso 6, de Greer 5

(Bassingwaight 67th 6).

Referees: Bill Monteville 7.

New Brisbane Lions signing

Boudewijn de Greer had a dis-
astrous debut and was sub-
stituted.

de Greer, who came to Lions
with accolades including being
former Norway Player of the Year
and Dutch First Division
star with Haarlem and De
Graaf Schapen, looked unfit and
affected by the heat.

— Steve — Dutcher took the

field on the left wing along-

side big men Barry Kelso and

Calvin Daunt, which pushed

Australian youth team mid-

fielder Danny Wright into an

attacking midfield position but

after 67 minutes, Lions coach

Simon Kistemaker, who orga-

nised the signing of de Greer

for Lions could persist no fur-

ther and replaced the "star" with

your midfielder Rich Bas-

singwaighe.

Lions had been in a Gold

Coast training camp since

Friday night, and the bond

between the players appeared to

show early as they hassled and

fought for every ball.

Former national player

Steve Hogg was particularly

brilliant, completely over-
shadowing his man, Billy Wil-
liamson, while Australian
youth team midfielder Russell
Stewart more than held his
own against City stalwart
Frank Pimblett.

And up front big Barry
Kelso, rejuvenated by the
switch of clubs, was as dan-
gerous as ever. It was from a
Stewart throw that he made
the first breakthrough. The
ball was thrown to Daunt on
the near post and his flick
found Kelso who easily side-
footed into the far side of the
goal.

Kelso finished off a good
move that began with a corner
and was in one of his few
exciting moments, played a good
long cross after getting the
ball back off his corner and
nodded the ball back to
Kelso to blast into the net.

And that goal just about
ended the Lions' game for the
day. From the 50th minute
until the end of the game it
was all Brisbane City.

Joe Cairney, in a welcome
return to form after a terrible
season last year, got City's
first when he finished a good
move begun by Allan Hughes
and ended by Bob Hamilton.

Peter Tokesi netted the equal-
iser with a header off a Pim-
blett freekick.

Billy Williamson, who went
to City in the swap for Kelso,
also got in the act of scoring
against his old team when he
netted City's third.

Stephen Glockner made it
four in injury time when he
finished a move started by
Cairney and Hamilton.

— RICKY ROSSO

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Brown adds to Ollie's Woes

SM-Hellas 4

Makedonia 0

Score: Blue, 13th, Brown 38th

Goals: Helford 62nd.

Venue: Milda Park.

Crowd: about 5000.

Referee: Jim Fahey 6.

HELLAS: Lioski 6, Blair 8, Davidson 8, Helford 6, Crino 7, Blair 8, Davidson 8, Helford 8, Crino 8, Murphy 7, Brown 8, Egan 8, Woodlin 8.

MAKEDONIA: Wilson 7, Opanas 6, Tomasic 6, Kostic 6, Pekrovski 6, Farrel 4 (Lucchesi 7, half time), Whittle 5, Odzakov 6, Makedonia 5, McMillan 5, Ward 8.

Everything finally came together for Hellas coach Rale Basic. Doug Brown had a dream debut for his new club against his old, and Makedonia coach Peter Ollerton was left pondering his future.

It's not the committee that's on Ollerton's back. Knowing president John Branov, he'll remain loyal to Ollerton, but the fans are much more fickle.

Bertogna missing

Newcastle 2

APIA 0

Ground: International Sport Centre

Weather: Fine and hot

Crowd: 1600

Referee: Jim Neaves 7.

APIA: Mariano KB UNITED: Goss

King seven, Mairer six, H. Tredinick

eight, Burke eight, Watson seven

Mason eight, Senkalski eight,

Buckley six, Mountford seven,

Long, Jones, R. Jones, R. Jones,

Mountford, Drysdale 6, Buckley in 75th

minute.

APIA: Woodhouse nine, Carter

seven, Mariano seven, Battalico six,

De Ceglia six, P. Mariano eight,

Brune seven, Valeri six, Suttmann six, Glampredo six. Replacement:

Morsello for Bradley in 72nd

minute.

Score: 35th Mason (H) 73rd

Long (N).

APIA Leichhardt was without

injured Arno Bergara, Mark Pullen

and striker Peter Jones.

Mariano KB UNITED had their best combination and performed credibly.

Joe Senkalski found David Lowe in the 35th minute. After taking the defence with him he passed to Craig Mariano. A 20 metre drive beat

Greg Woodhouse.

Newcastle's captain Mason sent David Jones away on the left, in the second half. His cross was picked up by Lowe whose header found the net off the right upright.

— JOE LANZONI

They've been giving Ollerton hell lately, and he doesn't like it. Whatever happens, he's determined to keep on playing. "I reckon I could have done much better than most of them out there today," he said after the game.

Alex Livingstone, a goalscoring midfielder from Scottish club Albion Rovers, arrived on the morning of the match but obviously came a little too early for him to be included in the Makedonia team.

REASON FOR THE VICTORY: Ollerton admitted that his players aren't as fit as they should be because they started training late. Fitness certainly was a factor. The Hellas players ran their opponents into the ground — particularly Carl Helford. Hellas' full backs — Alan Davidson and Bobby Russell — continually linked up with the attack, while Makedonia's full backs stayed in defence. The Hellas midfield, particularly Helford, thoroughly outplayed their opponents. Little demonstration of Hellas' superiority came in 70th minute, when Oscar Crino, cool and aloof, arrogantly stood on the ball and rolled it twice in different directions, with the sole of his foot to shake off a challenge by Alan Whittle who was left dumbfounded. Ole!

THE TACTICS: I had expected Basic to use Doug Brown as a deep-lying right flanker, but instead he played as a third striker, certainly on the right. He stayed up front in the striking line for most of the game. At Makedonia he had been required to go up and down the line, as far as the full back position. At Hellas he has a winning midfield behind him, so he'll score a ton of goals. Ken Murphy was wide on the left, providing good penetration there in a position contrasting with the one he held previously in central midfield. Makedonia used its neq acquisition, George Campbell, was a winger, switching from side to side, with George McMillan and Gary Ward as the central strikers. Con Opanas marked Charlie Egan without much success and Doug Jones took on Steve Woodlin, who nevertheless created much off the forward play for Hellas with neat flicks. Makedonia replaced Isaia Farrell with Claude Lucchesi at half time and Lucchesi made a difference. A half-time blast by Ollerton also served to inject new life into the Makedonia team.

THE GOALS: 13th min: Egan and Woodlin interchange passes. Egan goes to the line and squares the ball into the goal mouth where Steve Blair belts it home 1-0.

35th: Egan cuts in from the right, is blocked by Jones, the ball falls to Brown who scores with a perfect volley 2-0.

36th: Brown breaks through on the right, sees goalkeeper Richard Wilson coming out, and lobs the ball brilliantly over Wilson's head, into the net 3-1.

62nd: A defensive clearance falls to the feet of Helford who belts it home first-time from the edge of the penalty area 4-0.

— LAURIE SCHWAB



Hellas midfielder Oscar Crino (front) shrugs off a challenge from Makedonia's Zarko Odzakov. Picture by LES SHORROCK

Jankovics, Henderson kick out Slickers

Marconi 3

Syd. City 2

Ground: Marconi Stadium
Crowd: 2000
Referee: Richard Lovren 9.

Goals: 1-0 Jankovics, 2-0

Carbone, 3-0 Brown, 3-1 Mitchell,

3-2 Barnes.

MARCONI: Maher 6, Dagnay 6,

Rizzoli 7, Henderson 8, Budini 7,

Carbone 6, Samani 6, Brown 6,

Jankovics 8, Djordjevic 5 (Hunter 73), McCulloch 8.

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano 6, Carr

9, Mitchell 6, Barnes 6, Watson 6,

Murray 6, Watson 8, Barnes 6,

Rendell 6 (Lee 61'), Kosmina 6, Mit

chell 6.

In the 27th minute Mark Jankovics showed a fairly small crowd at Marconi Stadium just how dangerous he can be, by blasting a cross from Jovan Djordjevic wide of Tony Pezzano to give his side the lead.

That was just the tonic Marconi needed, and within a minute Attilio Carbone made

it 2-0.

In the 78th minute

Mark Jankovics showed more

stamina towards the end and

came close to going into extra

time. David Mitchell scored

from close range after a lousy

run by Grant Lee in the 78th

minute, then Murray Barnes

slammed a superb 18 metre

shot high into the roof of the

net after a blunder by Carbone

on the edge of his own penalty

area.

With six minutes to go, Slickers suddenly came to life

but it was all too late, for Marconi, led by a superb Tony Henderson, hung on to win and go into the second round.

Marconi's Socceros, Jankovic, Henderson and young Socceros McCulloch and Brown overshadowed the heavy guns of Sydney City. David Mitchell and John Kosmina will forget this game in a hurry, for they looked far worse than what we saw from them against New Zealand.

Jankovic scored a great goal

and had a hand in another as

well as producing some great

passes. While McCulloch was

an inspiration, Marconi's

midfield Joe Watson was

unbelievable. Ian Mackie did a magic job

and was my man of the

match.

Bobby McLachlan: "The

turning point was Lujic's miss.

We had soaked up the pressure

well to get that inevitable

breakaway but you must put

away chances like that.

We played some good disciplined

stuff and were in full command

of the players. After that

result we can look for bigger

and better things provided we

get some consistency into

the side. Robert Vincent added

another dimension to our side,

making the midfield very com-

petitive. Toro got a lot of very

freedom because of the hard work

of the three other midfielders

especially John Spanos, whose

work rate was unbelievable.

Ian Mackie did a magic job

and was my man of the

match.

— PETER DESIRA

— ALEX VESIC

TORO ALL CLASS!

Foots. JUST 2

Heidelberg 3

Scorer: Kondoros 14m, Valen-

time 20m, 87m, Lee 81m, Mac-

millan 84m.

Ground: Schindler Reserve.

Attendance: 2000.

Referee: E. Vesic.

FOOTSCRAY: Boland 6; Stoj-

cevski 7 (Simec 87m 7), O'Reilly 6,

Kondoros 8, Haszab 6, Ristovski

7, Kyriakoules 5, Lioski 6; Carroll

8, Mariano 6, McMillan 6.

GOALS: Heidelberg

— Shillabeer 7, Banfield 7,

Miller 7, B. Nyskohus 8 —

Dods 7, Melts 7, J. Nyskohus

7, Villani 7, Carte 7, Max-

well 8.

Now signing Paul Wormley

grabbed his first goal with

the club by heating in Graham

heys' 61st minute cross to

send Adelaide City out of the

Cup.

It was the third successive

occasion that City's progress

in the competition has been

stopped by their rivals.

The match was played in un-

comfortable 35 degree heat but

West, which played a hard

— ALAN VESIC

Wormley wins it for Wests

West Adel 1

Adel City 0

Scorer: Wormley 61st

Ground: Hindmarsh Sta-

dium

Crowd: 3169

Cautions: Melts, J. Nys-

kohus (Ad City); McGregor

(West)

Referee: J. Rossis

WEST ADELAIDE: Crook 8

— McGregor 8, Dunn 8,

McGachey 7, Amy 7,

Astales 8 (Bojczuk), Hiern 7,

Brennan 7 — Heys 8, Worm-

ley 7, Honeyman 7.

GOALS: Footscray

top the lead after 14 minutes

from a freekick awarded for a

handball in the penalty area.

Wormley's brilliant

header goal, Carter almost

immediately responded with a

rising drive which Martin

Crook saved brilliantly.

City's most impressive

player was teenage striker

Steve Maxwell who has the

pace and the skill to not only

worry NSL defences but force

his way into the Youth Socce-

roos.

After Wormley's great

headed goal, Carter almost

immediately responded with a

rising drive which Martin

Crook saved brilliantly.

City's most impressive

player was teenage striker

Steve Maxwell who has the

pace and the skill to not only

worry NSL defences but force

his way into the Youth Socce-

roos.

— ALAN VESIC

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By ALEX VESIC

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MARCONI 3 (Licata 24th, Jankovic 29th, 98th) ST GEORGE 3 (Barton 19th, Marton 50th, penalty 104th). After extra time, Marconi won 4-3 on penalties. NSW Ampol Cup final at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 5,672. Referee: Gary Power 9.

MARCONI: Maher 9, Bozanic 8 (Henderson 59th 0), Mizrahi 7, McCullough 8, Degney 7, Budini 6, Sermani 7, Carbone 6, Brown 6, Jankovic 8, Licata 7 (Djordjevic 66th 7). Coach: Doug Collins.

ST GEORGE: Greedy 9, Skeen 8, R. O'Shea 7, M. O'Shea 7, Ratcliffe 5 (sent off 68th) Barton 6 (Fisher 99th), Muskowitz 6 (Koczka 99th), Stone 7, Wilkinson 6, J. O'Shea 8, Marcon 9. Coach: Frank Arok.

Marconi and St George thrilled over 5,000 spectators at Marconi Stadium for the second time in five days with some fast and exciting action, with the winning goal coming after a series of penalties to break the deadlock. Jovan Djordjevic was the last of Marconi's penalty takers and he had to score to give Marconi the Ampol Cup. His shot was too good for Terry Greedy and the ball nestled in the top left hand corner of the net to give Marconi this much needed victory, days before the NSW competition is due to start.

It was a fast and exciting game, with soccer the most pronounced winner. Tackles were hard and action was swift with neither side giving an inch throughout the match.

Mark Barton at one end and Rod Brown at the other end made goalkeepers work hard and let us have a glimpse of things to come, early in the match, then Saints struck with a fine goal by Barton.

After a poor clearance by Marconi's defence, Barton picked up to storm through some feeble tackling before facing Maher to score in the 19th minute. Marconi's goal

came five minutes later, directly from a corner kick — Rene Licata curved the ball from the right hand side with the inside of his left foot and the ball took a sudden dip close to the near post to elude the groping hands of Greedy.

Dez Marton was through minutes later, but another diver at the feet of Saints' diving man to block the shot.

Marconi went ahead in the 29th minute. Licata managed to slip away from Dave Skeen and send a high cross to the far post for Mark Jankovic to tap into the net to make it 2-1. Five minutes later Licata was in the clear on the left hand side and only 10 metres from goal but blasted over the bar.

Brown had another opportunity for Marconi close to the end of the first half, but the woodwork got in the way and the home side went in half time leading by the slenderest of margins.

13 minutes into the second half, Marton scored after a good through ball by Skeen to pave the way for yet another exciting finish.

After 66 minutes Jankovic raced through the middle to face Greedy, but the Saints keeper dived at his feet to grab the ball. Jankovic rose and was challenged by David Ratcliffe, who appeared to head-butt Jankovic. Marconi's striker, who has had his nose broken twice during his career, fell to the ground and Robert Greedy Power had no hesitation in sending Ratcliffe off.

There were some contentious arguments about Jankovic's "making a meal of it" and giving Power "no choice". Without much ado, I would like to ask all those who felt otherwise, what would you do after seeing a player headbut an offside?

Irrespective of the damage to the opponent, the action deserves only one thing — an early shower.

Jankovic put Marconi ahead with a fine goal in the



NSW AMPOL CUP

Strange though, when you think that only two weeks ago, the two players were the best of buddies at Rushcutters Bay, while in training with the Australian national team.

Ratcliffe was unhappy about being sent-off and felt that it was the action of the opponent and not his own that caused him to be ordered off so he continued his private war with Jankovic in the club cafeteria after the match, shouting at the Marconi striker. In chimed Robbie Slater with a few words aimed at an elderly gentleman standing next to Jankovic (identified later as the father of the Marconi striker), only adding fuel to the fire.

Brown missed close to the end, then with seconds remaining Wilkinson was alone and only metres away from goal but managed to blast over the bar. Soon after, extra time was over and penalties had to be taken.

Marton scored the lead with the first penalty, then McCullough equalised. Robert O'Shea put Saints ahead, but Henderson nullified that lead with a well taken goal. Maher saved a shot from Les Feher, then Greedy saved from Paul Degney. Michael O'Shea made it 3-3, then Attilio Carbone equalised.

It was left to the last penalty takers.

Greedy hit the crossbar and Jovan Djordjevic scored to end the proceedings and give Marconi the cup.

It was a well earned win after 220 minutes of football and produced 15 goals and exciting action which will be remembered for a long time. Saints were good enough to win, but in a game like this you only can have one winner.

McCullough, Jankovic, Maher and Budini were the real stars in this Marconi side, while Marton with his 11 goal total in this Ampol Cup in just five games surely is the deadliest striker we have seen for many years. Greedy, John O'Shea and David Skeen had fine games.

Back home in Hungary, Koritar slams Saints

Remember Lajos Koritar, the former Hungarian "B" international who spent most of last season with St George Budapest?

If you don't, you can be forgiven; but Koritar most certainly has memories of "the Land of the Kangaroos", even if his memory is somewhat hazy and selective.

This is the general feeling around last year's PSL Grand Final winner following the publication of a half page article in Budapest sports daily "Nepsport" (People's Sport) recently.

It is a summing up of 10 months Koritar spent in our midst, which opens with the statement claiming "there's nothing better in the world than to be a soccer player in Hungary."

And St George officials agree that there's nothing better for Koritar to be a footballer — back in Hungary.

In an amazing article, Koritar levels a number of charges which would be extremely serious, not for the fact that they are patently ridiculous:

• Footballing "guest workers" cannot protect their interests;

• There's no guarantee that contractual agreements are adhered to;

• Koritar found it impossible to recall any pleasant memories of his 10 months' stay in Australia;

• He was dropped from the team for no valid reason;

• The St George committee is not interested in the fact that supporters wish to see Hungarian players in the team;

• When he suffered a leg injury, Koritar claims to have known immediately that the club would have no patience in waiting for his recovery;

• He complained about the fact that Australian soccer players have normal jobs, besides earning part of their

IN FOCUS

by PETER SCOTT



Under the circumstances surrounding Australian soccer, Koritar claimed it is "impossible to run serious teams".

• He claimed that "during my first fortnight they were hugging and kissing me like a pauper who would embrace his first banknote, later people didn't even inquire as to how I earned my living".

• Soccer, in general, is an unsuccessful enterprise in the shadow of rugby's and baseball's (sic!) overwhelming popularity.

• Players have to look after and carry their own boots, shirts and shorts to trainings and games;

• Quite a list. One only can wonder about the impression it left on the St George soccer loving, if long suffering — round ball sufferers.

Careful reading of this statement immediately points up its questionable nature.

While charging that contracts were not kept, Koritar also lets it be known that the final parting of the ways with St George was by common agreement and mutual satisfaction.

And why not?

Saints' manager Frank Arok this week revealed that Koritar for his 10 month's stay with the club received payments equivalent to 18 months of his contract.

"We didn't even seek to enforce the clause which made our obligations to the player dependent on him playing in at least 75 percent of our first team games," he pointed out.

"No one at St George has been ever shortchanged by a cent, and Koritar is no exception from this," said Arok.

Through Koritar's early departure, the Saints saved

which would have been payable to the player in match payments if he stayed.

"The fact is that Koritar took home with him 10 years' equivalent of what he would have earned in Hungarian football at his age — after just 10 months," Arok stated emphatically.

Arok also ridiculed the claimed bias against players of Hungarian extraction, by pointing out that his squad includes Dez Marton, Andrew Koczka, Les Feher and John Muskovic.

He hastened to add that, "they appear in the team not because of their national background, but because the quality of their play makes them worthy of selection".

• The place where Koritar fell down, as it is almost impossible to have a man in the team who throughout a whole season hardly even gains possession from the opposition.

"But, I was even willing to put up with that, if only he could have been another Dez Marton, willing and able to lift the level of the team's play through his individual skills and experience."

"When we signed Koritar on, I expected him to be a determined competitor in Budapest's style of play; a player who could define and mould our efforts and leave his mark on the team."

"Arok said he certainly didn't need to import a player who would just be one of 11 on the pitch."

The St George Budapest manager was also irate about Koritar's statements, accusing the club and its officials of not having any interest in his welfare.

"He forgets to mention that after moving into an empty

vided him with everything, from furniture, through to all the electric appliances and television set, right down to his tea spoons!"

In spite of the foregoing, Arok emphasised that Koritar throughout his stay was "the perfect gentleman", who was highly valued in his job — also provided by a club official.

"On the positive side, he had won that he didn't play well enough to warrant regular selection and, frankly, couldn't keep up with the pace of our training schedule."

In spite of the charges in the Hungarian media, Arok believes that Koritar's outburst is only prompted by a need to justify his early return home.

"However, I cannot be so understanding towards Hungarian sports writers who, in the tragic situation of Hungarian football in the seventies and the eighties has partly come about because of their media's attitude of almost total support of the players."

"It is common knowledge in that country how bad the situation is and those who don't know eventually become aware as their teams fall by the wayside in international competition."

"In Koritar's case, as in others, the Hungarian sports media is guilty of highlighting the fact that yet another of their players failed to live up to the physical demands and skill levels of a professional football club abroad, try to find excuses and blame others for failure."

"The fact is that such a failure can only be blamed on the obvious shortcomings of Hungarian soccer itself."

Arok singled out the Hungarian article's comment about Koritar looking aged, "wrinkled and tortured" on his return home.

"This is utter nonsense; in many years of football I have never seen rosy cheeked and cubby players, who were also fit!"

In his final comment Arok pointed out that Koritar took home with him to Budapest some \$15,000 to \$20,000 Forints in Hungarian currency, to a country where 4500 Forints is a good monthly salary and even the top paid soccer player in the nation doesn't earn more than \$20,000 Forints a year.

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Ampol Cup success kicks off McKendry era at Ajax

Len McKendry's only been coaching Ajax for a couple of months but already he has won an Ampol Cup and regards the introduction of striker Bobby Toal into the team and the full utilisation of midfielder David Smallman as the highlights of his stay so far.

McKendry took over a champion side. He bought Steve Short from Melbourne Croatia for \$7,500 and Toal from George Cross for \$4,500. Short had been out of the game for 15 months due to a dispute with Croatia. It speaks volumes for McKendry's opinion of the former Victorian state team player that after such a lengthy break he was signed for an uncommonly large fee for a State League defender.

Toal's pace and control always impressed McKendry. Now the former George Cross striker has a much improved attitude toward the game and is reaping the benefits, as evidenced by his stunning Ampol Cup final performance. Toal wants to learn, wants to improve, and the signs indicate that his talents aren't only destined for the State League scene.

But that's what McKendry and Ajax are all about — building for the future, a future which looks almost certain to involve the green and white in a regionalised national competition. Ajax must broaden its horizons. Its recent history shows that it has mastered the art of State League competition. New challenges are needed for this ambitious club. McKendry and his committee join with a growing number of soccer journalists in anticipation of a regionalised national competition next year.

Short and Toal weren't mere stop-gap signings. They were signed because they will be expected to do a job for the club in a regionalised competition.

The quality of the current Ajax side is unmatched in State League. However, a jump to the highest level of competition in the land entails new standards for Ajax, both in terms of coaching and playing staff and in terms of administration.

McKendry already is a proven performer at national league level. Arnold Langer and Guy Spiteri rival any club administrative duo in Australia. What of the Ajax players? "We need a minimum of three new players to compete at the highest level," said McKendry.

David Smallman, former Welsh international from Everton and Wrexham.



By CRAIG MACKENZIE

"A midfield and a striker would be of paramount importance. The third player could be a specialist in a certain position. We'd have to look at what was available at the time."

"But that's all in the long term. In the short term, I'm happy with the way we are progressing."

"I knew a lot about the squad before I took the job. My main task was to introduce Toal to the side and utilise Smallman more."

"With teaching Toal how to receive the ball properly, to get his turns in and to use his pace and control."

"Smallman's in the Rolls Royce class as far as a footballer is concerned. He's got so much skill and vision."

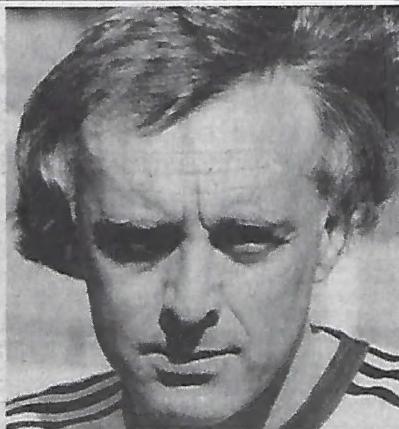
McKendry wasn't too worried about the organisation of Ajax's back four when he joined the club. He felt that Gardiner in the previous two years had done enough work in this department to minimise it as a problem area.

And now signing Short shared McKendry's ideas and approach to the game and slotted into the sweeper's role well. McKendry simplified the roles of Peter Boyle and Willie

of opposing teams," said McKendry.

"Against J.U.T. I knew we would be facing a defensive side. I knew we would get space in front of their defence so I worked on how to best utilise it."

"Against Hellas we worked on the importance of closing up their midfield. That was our first 90 minute game and I didn't know exactly how fit we were."



Len McKendry — he has succeeded Bobby McLachlan as coach of Green Gully Ajax.

"In the final against Heidelberg I used my knowledge of their weaknesses. I knew that I could exploit the space behind their back four."

McKendry, as is his fashion, won't be drawn into predictions about the outcome of any game let alone the race to the championship. His soccer thoughts are obsessed with the coming match, the next session, what to work on, strengths and weaknesses of the opposition. He's a thoroughly professional coach.

Rumor has it that he could be Australia's next national team coach. Albeit press rumblings, the noises about McKendry taking over from Les Scheinfug have grown louder in the past fortnight.

As an interested observer, McKendry reserves the right to critically appraise the performance and direction of the Australian national team. Some see his criticism as counter-productive. He rejects that claim.

"Surely, as a person, I've got a right to express an opinion. I'll always stand by that right."

"I'll also do everything I can to help Les Scheinfug. I may not necessarily agree with certain things but that doesn't stop me from helping the man, as I helped Jimmy Shouler and Rudi Gutendorf before him."

"I worked with Jimmy during the two games against Greece in 1978."

"I produced eight players for Rudi — Gary Cole, Jamie Paton, John Zendoor, George Christopoulos, Alan Davidson, Yakkie Banovic, Jim Campbell and Tommy Cumming."

"You can't doubt the help I've given Rudi even though I didn't agree with the way he used my players. But that's my professional and personal judgement. Surely I'm entitled to that. Plus, I think Rudi used my defenders as men markers whereas I was using them as space markers. That's a professional opinion."

"All I ask, is that my opinions are taken as my view on soccer, not as harsh criticism."

McKendry's club coaching career has been highlighted by the magnificent method of play he developed at Heidelberg United and which probably peaked in 1980.

"People still rave about that Grand Final win over Sydney City. I thought that we played better, if possible, the week before when we beat Hellas in the semi-finals."

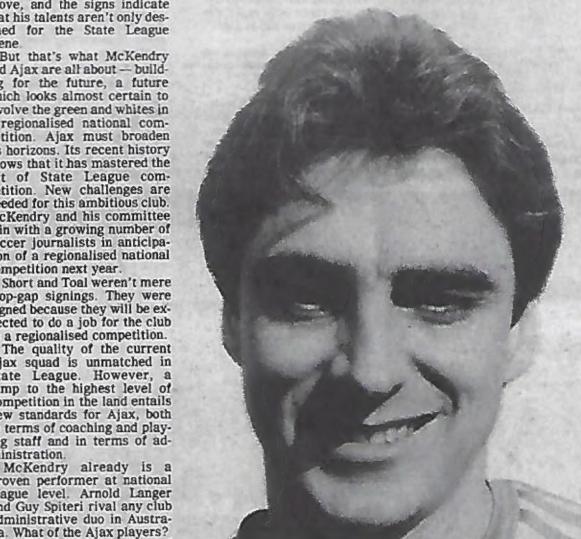
"Apart from the memory of that method of play, I also have great memories of the players, guys like Jimmy Rooney, Gary Cole and Jamie Paton, the best starting partners that I've ever had in my time here. Then there's the emergence of John Zendoor at the back and Jim Campbell exploding onto the midfield scene. These are the things I'll remember about Heidelberg."

McKendry and Heidelberg parted last year. McKendry intended going to Europe to watch other coaches in action, to search for European soccer but after a three week break he missed the sport which consumes his everyday life. Ajax approached him at precisely the right time.

"I had a long enough break to relax and rekindle my enthusiasm. I thought that the Green Gully job was the right sort of challenge for me — to develop a side capable of performing well in a regionalised national competition. I had reconsidered my plans to go to Europe and I was impressed by Arnold Langer's honesty when we discussed the possibility of me coaching Ajax."

The presence of such a well credentialed coach at Ajax reinforces the club's growing stature in Victorian and Australian soccer.

But if rumors linking McKendry with the Soccerco coaching job are true, the green and whites may have a battle on their hands to retain their new leader.



Striker Bobby Toal, retired from Sunshine George Cross.

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Tony Spiteri

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Tough guy holds the purse string

Arnold Langer, the player, was banned for life by the VSF tribunal in 1970.

He was found guilty of assaulting a referee at Seaford Reserve during a Metro League match between Frankston City and Green Gully Ajax. He was innocent.

Langer never revealed his innocence to the tribunal. If he had, he would have been forced to expose the identity of a young team mate, George Zamboulakis, the real culprit.

...I was nearing the end of my playing days and I didn't want to ruin the career of one of our most promising youngsters," said Langer.

"I had arrived late for the game because I had trouble finding the ground. The match had been going for about 15 minutes and although I

wasn't keen to go on, our supporters wanted me to play, so I did.

"We were doing quite well until the 75th minute when the referee gave a terrible penalty decision against us. I ran up to him and complained. He swore at me so I pushed him. Then all our players surrounded him and he apparently was hit from behind and fell. It wasn't me who hit him.

"We found out later that it was George but when I got to the tribunal I thought how terrible a thing it would be if this youngster's career was ruined, so I took the rap."

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Ajax's president at the time was Charlie Farrugia. He hounded the VSF for two years before the federation relented and lifted Langer's lifetime ban.

Langer resumed playing for a season or two but was plagued by ankle injuries and eventually retired. He left Ajax but returned about five years later to watch the odd game. Lou Stafrace was president then. Farrugia still was on the committee but family pressure was interfering with his club duties. He asked Langer to help.

Two months before the Ajax annual general meeting in October, 1979, Langer was co-opted onto the committee. At that AGM he became club treasurer. Guy Spiteri became president. Ajax's surge toward the top in Victorian soccer had started.

"We appointed Bobby McLachlan as coach in January, 1980. My first, immediate impression of Bobby was that he could do a job for us. I thought to myself, here's a man who can take us places," said Langer.

Ajax's aim was to climb into the State League top four in 1980. It finished third.

The green and white took a crack at the championship the following year and succeeded. They also won the Ampol and Dockerty Cups in 1981.

1982 was just as successful. A second successive championship and the Dockerty and State League Cups were added to an impressive haul of honors.

Langer sees a sound administration as the springboard for success. Sure, you need good players and good coaching, but the running of the club is of paramount importance to Langer.

"I had difficulties during my first year as Ajax treasurer. Being a German, I found that a few Maltese people were watching me left, right and centre to see what I was doing with their club's money. I don't have any such problems now. I'd like to think that I have earned the respect of everyone at the club.

"You've got to have a top administration to get anywhere. Look at South Melbourne Hellas — all the money in the world, all the players, a great coach in Rale Basic — but it hasn't got anywhere in the national league. I put that down to poor administration.



• Ajax's fine facilities are highlighted by plush social rooms (above) and new VIP and press areas which give an excellent view of Green Gully Reserve (below).



'We'll win the league again'

"As for the national team coach, there one as good as McKendry. That's my opinion, but I've told him that I will do nothing in my power to help him get the national team job.

"I hope he gets the job, even though it be a big loss to my club. But you have to about more than just your club. You is think about the advancement of soccer in Australia. McKendry has a speciality to get absolutely everything out of players and with someone like him in charge would be confident about Australia's qualification for the 1986 World Cup finals."

When McLachlan left Ajax late last year after the most successful period in the history, the committee decided not to advertise for a coach. Langer and Spiteri empowered to approach prospective coaches and recommend the man for the job to committee. Langer spoke to McKendry, Kapetanovic, Attila Abonyi and Michael Schaefer among others.

"At first, I was too shy to talk to him. I didn't think that he would want to join a State League club but the more I talked about it the more I wanted him at Ajax.

"I took him to lunch and we discussed things openly. He decided to join. He has the best coach in Australia."

Langer always was confident of Ajaking this year's Ampol Cup despite opposition from the four Melbourne-based NSL clubs. He never considered defeat. Neither did McKendry.

"I always told you, Craig, that Ajax win the Cup, didn't I? I think that I was most confident bloke among our committee.

"I realised how confident McKendry was when I met him at Olympic Park's matinee before our semi-final against He asked him how the team looked. He said David Smailman was injured and the better to save him for the final.

"As Len walked away from me, the confidence implied by his statement struck

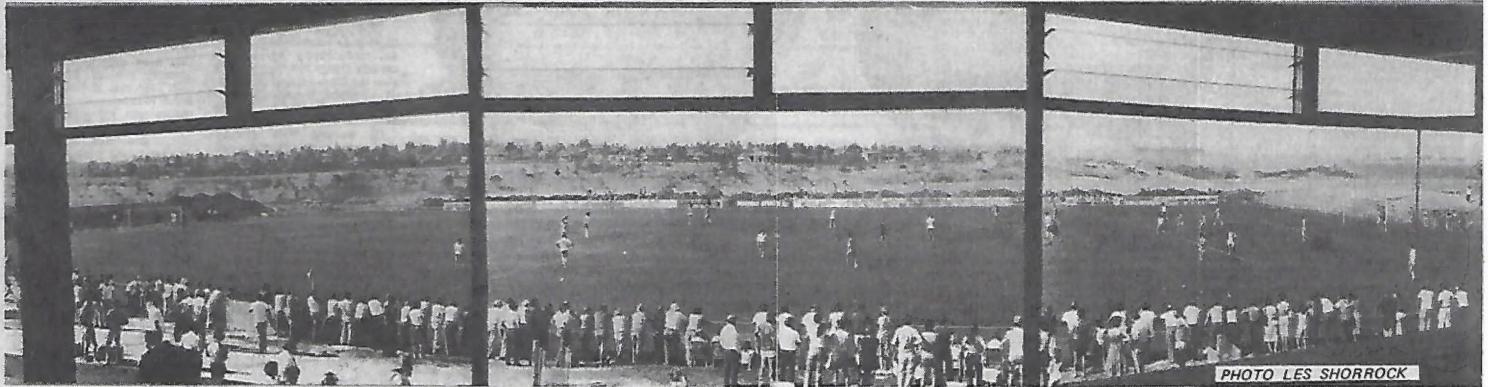


PHOTO LES SHORROCK

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• Ajax and the 1983 Ampol Cup. Back row: Guy Spiteri (president), Mario Borg (team manager), Lou Denys, Peter Lewis, Willie Vassallo, Fred Baller, Peter Boyle, Steve Short, Fab Mancinelli, Jim Williams, Dane Beranic, Kit Greechan, Ron Kremers, Len McKendry (coach), Garnet Robinson (from Ampol).

Paul Azzopardi (vice-president), John Borg (physiotherapist), Front: Charlie Parry (property steward), Joe Cenellier (reserve team coach), David Smealman, David Heggen, Bobby Toal, Paul Lewis, Steve Denys, Arnold Langer (treasurer), Dieter Witkowski (committeeman).

The quality of Ajax's squad is best understood in terms of the many Ajax players who are targets for other clubs. Marconi wanted to buy Stuart Cannell, Melbourne Croatia was keen to sign the few lads, Peter and Paul. All three clubs signed the five Ajax players before the Ampol Cup.

Langer is confident of Ajax winning its third successive championship. Then, Arnold Langer simply is a very confident self assured person. He hasn't finished making his mark as an administrator on the Victorian and Australian scene.

He certainly has made his mark on the VSF tribunal, appearing about 20 times during his 10 year playing career with Ajax.

"I just play the game hard".

He's playing a different game now but with just as much gusto. Ask any of the Ajax players whose contracts expire and are up for renewal.



• The Ajax squad which won the 1979 Ampol Cup. Back row: Nigel Daniels, Andy Segi, Joe Pavlekovic, Peter Donaldson, Mick Klarin, Steve Crilly, Victor Negro, Lou Denys, John Patten, Willie Vassallo, Dave Perkin. Front: Les Thomson, John Cain, Billy Vojtek (player-coach), Ian McCarthy, Steve Carr.



• Ajax and the 1981 Ampol Cup. Back row: Guy Spiteri, Mario Borg, Lou Denys, Gus Macleod, John Gardiner, Grant Smart, Billy Morray, Gerry Bennett, Bobby McLean (manager-coach), Steve Crilly, Arnold Langer. Front: Kit Greechan, Stuart Cannell, Kevin Wall, Willie Vassallo, Lino Grech, Dane Beranic. Sitting: David Hogben

Games for 1983

Ajax's State League home games in 1983:

V Melbourne Croatia, Sunday, March 27
V Albion Rovers, Sunday, April 3
V Northcote, Sunday, April 17
V Morwell Falcons, Sunday, May 1
V Sunshine-George Cross, Sunday, May 15
V Fawkner, Sunday, May 29
V Doveton, Sunday, June 19
V Polonia, Sunday, July 3
V Ringwood Wilhelmina, Sunday, July 24
V Box Hill, Sunday, August 7
V Juventus, Sunday, August 21
V Croydon, Sunday, September 4
V SM Hellas, Sunday, September 18

V Polonia, Sunday, March 20
V Ringwood Wilhelmina, Sunday, April 10
V Box Hill, Sunday, April 24
V Juventus, Sunday, May 8
V Croydon, Sunday, May 8
V Croydon, Sunday, May 22
V SM Hellas, Saturday, June 4
V Melbourne Croatia, Sunday, July 10
V Albion Rovers, Saturday, July 16
V Northcote, Sunday, July 31
V Morwell Falcons, Saturday, August 13
V Sunshine-George Cross, Sunday, August 28
V Fawkner, Sunday, September 11
V Doveton, Sunday, September 25

Ajax's State League away games in 1983:

V Melbourne Croatia, Sunday, March 20
V Ringwood Wilhelmina, Sunday, April 10
V Box Hill, Sunday, April 24
V Juventus, Sunday, May 8
V Croydon, Sunday, May 8
V Croydon, Sunday, May 22
V SM Hellas, Saturday, June 4
V Melbourne Croatia, Sunday, July 10
V Albion Rovers, Saturday, July 16
V Northcote, Sunday, July 31
V Morwell Falcons, Saturday, August 13
V Sunshine-George Cross, Sunday, August 28
V Fawkner, Sunday, September 11
V Doveton, Sunday, September 25

Honors galore

Ajax's Club Record:

1955 — formed as a junior club
1956 — formed as senior club
1964 — Fourth Division runner-up
1966 — Third Division runner-up
1971 — Second Division champion
1976 — First Division champion
1979 — Ampol Cup winner
1980 — third in State League
1981 — won State League, Dockerty Cup, Ampol Cup
1982 — won State League, Dockerty Cup, State League Cup
1983 — Ampol Cup winner...

Stars since '62

Ajax's Players of the Year:

1962 — Sammy Psaila	1972 — David McCurry
1963 — Arnold Langer	1973 — Franz Berens
1964 — G.A. Nicholls	1974 — Boris Brani
1965 — Michael Gambin	1975 — Franz Berens
1966 — Arnold Langer	1976 — David Cole
1967 — Charles Vella	1977 — Jim McGill
1968 — Tony Gallagher	1978 — Ian McCarthy
1969 — Frank Campbell	1979 — Willie Vassallo
1970 — Nicholas Kolb	1980 — Jimmy Dunne
1971 — Tony Vella	1981 — John Gardner
	1982 — Jim Williams

Spiteri the boss

The Green Gully Ajax Committee:

PRESIDENT: Guy Spiteri

VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Azzopardi

SECRETARY: Mr van Lakis Tel: 615 5058 (B), 367 2421 (H) 8 Balanarring Drive, St Albans, 3021.

TREASURER: Arnold Langer

COMMITTEE: F. Aquilina, B. Brani, J. Chircop, M. Coughlan, C. Darmanin, R. O'Shannessy, V. Pace, D. Witkowski.

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Get out, Derwall, sensations at Juve

In a poll conducted by the Cologne paper "Sport-Illustrierte," 60 per cent of those questioned demanded the resignation of national team manager Jupp Derwall. Most charged him with lack of authority and inability to control players. As his successor, they suggested former assistant Erich Ribbeck (56.3 per cent), Hennes Weisweiler (30 per cent), Ernst Happel (8.1 per cent). Also, 66.5 per cent demanded the sacking of Hermann Neuberger, president of the German federation (DFB). In 15 internationals over the past season, West Germany has won eight, drawn three and lost four, with a goals tally of 24-16. It is 12 years since so many goals were conceded (19 in 1970) but then four more were scored. And you have to go back 24 years to find the Germans losing four times. In their whole history since 1908, the national team only once (1956) lost five games in a season.

Bye, Figueroa

Chilean super star Elias Figueroa says he will retire at the end of the season after a 20-year professional career. Figueroa, 36, of Colo Colo, is likely to become president of Chile's oldest and most traditional club, Santander Wanderers of Valparaiso. He played against Australia in the scoreless draw during the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

Lugue moves

Leopoldo Lugue, Argentinean striker in the 1978 World Cup finals, has signed a six-



Jupp Derwall



Kaz Gorski

month contract with Santos of Brazil after being out of soccer since returning from Mexico late last year.

Juve sensations

Such is the disappointment at big-spending Juventus that Michel Platini may 'retire' to the North American Soccer League next season, Zbigniew Boniek may move to Bayern Munich and Paolo Rossi could be sold to Milan. These and other stars were expected to leave Juventus after the championship, but there's almost no hope now of catching leader Roma, coached by Nils Liedholm.

Littbarski

Internazionale's chief Sandro Mazzola wanted to buy Koen's Pierre Littbarski until he found that the player wanted a \$700,000 signing-on fee and that Koen was asking for \$2 million.

Fatal cartilage

Ezio Scaini of Italian Third Division club Vicenza went into hospital to have a cartilage removed, never recovered from the anesthetic, and died.

Scottish Cup

SCOTTISH Cup holders Aberdeen have been drawn away to Partick or Clyde in the quarter-finals. Other ties to be played on March 12 are: Queen's Park v Rangers, Airdrie v St Mirren, Celtic v Hearts.

FA Cup

FA Cup quarter-finals: BOURNLEY v SHEFF. WEDY ARSENAL v ASTON VILLA MANCHESTER UNITED v EVERTON, BRIGHTON v NORWICH CITY.

Ties to be played on Saturday, March 12.

LATEST odds on the FA Cup from Corals are 13-8 Man-



Michel Platini

Cobreloa

Cobreloa, from the mining town of Calama, won the Chilean championship with two rounds to go, as did Cali's America in Colombia.

Brazil's heroes

Brazil's most capped players: Djalma Santos 100 games/96 goals; goalkeeper Gilmar 96/100 goals conceded; Rivelino 94/26; Pele 93/81; Jairzinho 85/37; Gerson 78/18; Nilton Santos 77/3; Didi 70/20; Zico 67/47; Leao 66/34 conceded.

Korea ban

FIFA has endorsed a two-year international ban on North Korea over a vicious attack on Thai referee Vijit Gaekwad during its 2-3 loss to Kuwait in the Asian Games in India.

Maltese mauled

Malta continues to be easy picking for the other Europeans. In recent matches, Malta lost 0-7 to Bulgaria and 0-2 to US Botev on a Bulgarian tour and a 0-6 loss to Holland in the European championships. The Maltese however, showed better form in losing only 1-2 to Nottingham Forest before a record crowd at Marsa and drawing 0-0 with Bulgaria in their return match. Bulgaria, however, repaid by thrashing Maltese league leaders Hamrun Spartans 7-1.

Hungary tours

Hungary toured the Middle East with the following players: Katszira, Zsibors, Sallai, A. Kerekes, Garabas, Varga, Moldvan, Hanich, Myilas, Peczik, Burcsa, Pasztor, Bodonyi, Szalai, L. Kerekes, Gy. Kerekes, Polozsken. Playing as a "Hungarian XI" they beat Egypt 1-0 and 2-0 and drew 1-1 with the Egyptian Olympic team. After these games, coach Kalman Meszoly said he would recall Csapo, Fazekas and Meszeros from abroad.

Gorski at AEK

Former Polish national coach Kaz Gorski has replaced Tadek Calkowski as coach of AEK Athens. Gorski previously guided Panathinaikos, Olympiakos and Kastoria. Only 2000 fans turned up to see AEK lose 1-4 to Eintracht Frankfurt in front of only 2000 fans — and the game was intended to be a money-spinner for AEK Eintracht; incidentally, the Year in two separate polls.



Archie Gemmill

Aberdeen tops

After Uli Hoeneß had watched Aberdeen take Celtic to the cleaners in Glasgow he said that the Dons are a better side than Barcelona, Real Madrid and Inter Milan.

Forgotten

Forgotten man of Scottish soccer. That David Hay, the former Celtic, Chelsea and Scotland defender who as manager took Motherwell into the Premier League this season, then immediately quit to take up a post as manager of a luxurious sporting complex in Florida but trouble in obtaining the necessary work permit has kyboshed his future as he still remains in Scotland.

Flights cut

First Division side Ipswich Town is for economy reasons to discontinue flying to its "long distance" away games — places like Sunderland, Swansea etc — only a matter of around 600 miles return trip. These are only a hop, step and jump compared with the vast mileage covered by the Australian National League sides.

Heart attack

Former Czech World Cup winner Tomas Pospichal who is not team manager of club side Bohemians is back in business after major heart surgery.

Andy Lynch

Andy Lynch, the former Celtic defender who was in its Australian tour line-up in 1977 is now the manager for team boss lost with Montreal NASL. Lynch was assistant to English/Italian star Eddie Firmani who has parted with the Manics.

SOCER AROUND THE WORLD

lost 1-3 to Panathinaikos in Patras. AEK's leading scorer, Thomas Mavros, is rumored to be heading for Panathinaikos soon.

Panagoulias

Alketas Panagoulias, who led Greece on its 1978 tour of Australia, has left Olympiakos to take over the US national team.

Docherty back

Tommy Docherty's youngest son Peter, 17, has rejoined Manchester United after a spell with Wigan and as a midfielder is a member of the highly successful youth side at Old Trafford. Peter's elder brother Mick is now a coach with Sunderland with whom he once played as well as being with Burnley and Manchester City.

Gemmill

Former Scotland skipper Archie Gemmill, 36 on March 24 and back with Derby County as its driving skipper,

may quit the playing side at the end of the season. Gemmill is likely to try to get into club management or go to America.

Juve SOS

Juventus is reported to have invited France's national team manager Michel Hidalgo to go to Turin to try to rejuvenate his former World Cup skipper Michel Platini who has flopped badly since he moved to the Italian club.

Bargain sale

Since Ron Saunders, ex-Aston Villa boss, took over as manager of Birmingham City just over a year ago, he has sold 20 of his original staff of 37 and bought 10 newcomers. His bargain sale must be his most recent as striker Neil Whetstone to Oxford United for \$50,000. For only 18 months ago Jim Smith, then manager at Birmingham and now in charge with Oxford United, paid Bolton \$700,000 for Whatmore.

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Diamond Head, the now dormant volcano, overlooks Kapiolani Park, venue of the Hawaiian Masters tournament.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Oahu, the most hyped-up of the eight Hawaiian islands, means "The Gathering Place". I was there when it served as the venue for the Royal Hawaiian Masters tournament, contested by 16 teams of over-30 amateurs.

The teams included North Shore Kilarny from Canada, Tainan Municipal from Taiwan, Zagreb-California, Caura Constructors from Seattle, the Roman Senate from New Jersey, the Pan Am Globetrotters from Middlesex, England, and Laguna of Hawaii.

For those familiar with the annual Mallacoota tournament on Victoria's far east coast, imagine that magnified in stature, transported to Waikiki beach and boosted by professional promotion.

Those who have competed in Hawaii — Sydney University reached the final a few years ago — regard it as the ideal opportunity to combine their soccer with the experience of being one of the world's major tourist spots.

Players fork out an overall fee that covers air travel, hotel accommodation (top-class), sightseeing tours, luaus, an awards night banquet and lots more. The cost by the way, is extremely reasonable.

Clubs interested in getting into the Hawaiian soccer experience should contact Stephen's Travel at 88 Pitt Street, Sydney 2000, phone (02) 231 3533. Talk to Ken Grover or Robert Gibson.

There's also an Hawaiian women's tournament. The Australian national women's team is over there at the moment.

Greater things are on the horizon.

Dennis Minka, the man who runs Royal Hawaiian World

Sports, plans a massive tournament in 1984, covering senior, masters (over 30) and women's competition.

Kurt Silberstein of the US Soccer Federation, envisages a Pacific Coast soccer tournament for club teams from countries with a Pacific coastline.

Digressing briefly, Silberstein has Newmarket's team from Queensland touring the US in October this year and will invite at least two Australian women's teams to take part in an international competition in the US in August-September 1984.

In addition, he offers Australian men's teams the opportunity to take part in the annual Independence Day classic for amateurs in California in July. That, too, includes entertainment, banquets, sightseeing, and a package fare.

Clubs can contact Silberstein at 5302 Ayrshire Drive, San Jose, California 95118, phone (408) 265 6794.

Now for a mouth-watering taste of Hawaii. Eat your hearts out!

First there's the climate. It was winter, but the temperature was a constant 30-plus and the sea was warm. We had the choice of languishing under swaying palms on Waikiki beach, sunbaking by the pool and the bar at our hotel, the Princess Kaiulani, or travelling across the cloud-embossed mountains to the more sedate and more beautiful north.

At night, Waikiki and downtown Honolulu offered a myriad of nightclubs and bars for the sedate and the funky.

The restaurants offered food from most nationalities and if you like that sort of thing, you can have just about every type of take-away meal there.

John Economos practically blew his mind. John of the Sydney publication Soccer What's Name, had never been out of Australia before. It was all too much for him. He zapped here and there, on the verge of a



Players of 1st FC Edmonton (Canada) and Tainan Municipal (Taiwan) at a Luau near Paradise Beach.

pleasure-induced coronary. He was so wrapt he spent four hours writing about a thousand post cards only an hour after getting off the Pan Am liner. Then he spent an hour buying an Hawaii T-shirt.

The hospitality Dennis hasn't been better. Dennis Minka and his lovely Jane, Sue Harrington, big Pete "Lurch" McKibbin and Co. bent over backwards until their spines cracked.

It's Minka, who's been running soccer tournaments in Hawaii since 1976, who gave us most of the spiel about this island state.

Diamond Head, a now dormant volcano that overlooks Kapiolani Park, site of the soccer masters, was mistaken by the first European settlers as a goldmine — or, to be precise, a diamond mine. Volcanic flows had left crystalline remains that resembled pieces of broken Colgate toothbrushes. They weren't diamonds after all. Now the US army has a small base inside the volcano.

In fact, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the army took over all the mountain tops for strategic purposes and thus became one of five major landowners in the Hawaiian Islands. The other four are family estates — those of Campbell, Bishop, Alexander and Baldwin and Castle & Cook.

Anyway, back to Kamehameha. Some Europeans take him to England to see how royalty lives, and he decides he wants to live the same way. He needs money, though. So this Pomp with an eye for a buck works out a plan. He tells him to give away all the land to all the people and in return, collect taxes. If they fail to pay up, this guy says, then their next of kin are responsible, and if they haven't got the cash, then the land can be bought for the value of the unpaid taxes.

Right, says the King let's do it.

So this guy — I think his name was Judd — devised a clever scheme to get all the land for himself. Every time some Hawaiian died, he entered in the official records not the name of the deceased, but a different name entirely. Relatives on the other side of the island had no way of knowing who the dead guy was, so they didn't pay the taxes owing. In stepped Judd and bought up the land.

Today, as a result of his connection, no-one in Hawaii knows to whom he or she is related.

A bit more tourist trivia — Hawaii has the highest cost of living in the US and the 25th highest average income. It has no billboards, most couples work for the government by day and in the tourist industry at night, so they have four incomes, which just about make ends meet. A two-bedroom flat in Honolulu costs about \$800 a month. Out in the sticks, you're up for between \$350 and \$500 for a two-bedroom house.

A plague of rats developed in Hawaii as these cute little rodents jumped off ships from China in the last century. According to Minka, a misguided Italian (Mingo too is of Italian ancestry) tells the men who matter: "Have I gotta da schema for you". Mingo reckons it was of this relatives. Get mongooses (mongooses) out here, and they'll kill all the rats. Wrong. Mongooses eat snakes, not rats. All rats are not equal, mongooses come out in daylight. Now Hawaii has a huge population of both rats and mongooses (mongooses) and a strange-looking creature called a ratgoose, or is it monrat?????

Anyway, back to the soccer. I see Laguna of Hawaii beat 1st FC Edmonton (half German, half Croatian) to advance to the final against Laney of California. I have to leave before the final, which is played at Aloha Stadium, near Pearl Harbor. This stadium is something else. It's built on tracks and rollers that enable the two halves of the stadium to concertina in and out, depending on the sport being played there. Each time the operating button is pushed it cost \$12,000.

Economos and I have dubbed him "Lurch" after the Adams Family monster. He's huge in build, a former goalkeeper who had his cheekbone



Dennis Minka, organiser of the Royal Hawaiian Masters tournament at Waikiki.

broken, his eye socket split and his life hanging by a thread because he tried to make a save with his face.

Economos wanted a picture taken with McKibbin but the photographer found it difficult to fit both in the frame for a close-up. No problem, McKibbin grabs Economos in a bear hug and picks him up like a feather. "Take the shot", he commands.

Elaine Watson, a leading women's soccer official from Queensland is here, as advance scout for the national team. I'm helping Lurch clear up after the semi-final when she wanders over for significant observations. "Have you walked over that pitch?" she asks as I strain over concrete blocks. "Yeah, I've run over them on my morning jog."

"Don't you think that pitch is a fraction shorter than the one behind it?"

"Dunno."

"I think this near-side penalty area isn't as smooth as the one on the other side."

"Oh, yeah?"

"I think I'd better walk over them and take a rough measure."

"Duh."

She'd better check the mean temperature for the month. It may be one degree too hot or cool.

Is Waikiki beach perhaps 20 minutes from the hotel? Do the palm trees cast unaccustomed shadows?

Can that sun be turned down a bit?



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"Soccer Action" editor Laurie Schwab and the view from Poli Pass in the mountains outside Honolulu.

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Cumming back in big charity clash

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Tommy Cumming's return to representative soccer is the feature of tonight's (Wednesday's) big Bushfire Appeal clash at Olympic Park at 8.15 pm between Rale Basic's NSL select and Len McCondry's State League select.

The curtain raiser, at 6.45 pm, is the Junior Ampol Cup final for under-13s featuring Ardeer and Box Hill.

Cumming's comeback after a two-year lay-off due to a crippling groin and pelvic complaint, is a welcome sign not only for Victorian State team coach Tim White, but especially for Socceroo boss Les Scheffing.

The little Scot played for Melbourne Croatia in the recent Ampol Cup series and his sharpness improved with every game.

Cumming's size, skill, pace and aggression long have endeared him to the fans. When he's in possession there's a buzz of anticipation around the ground. He's a tremendous character both on and off the field and one of the personalities who adds much needed color to the Victorian and Australian soccer scene. He has represented Australia and Victoria with distinction. Let's hope he can do so again.

Rale Basic accepted the job of coaching of the NSL select on the proviso that Makedonia's Peter Ollerton, J.U.S.T.'s Bobby McLachlan and Heide-

berg's Ken Morton join him as selectors. This coaching quartet selected four players from each Melbourne based NSL team and put together a star-studded squad.

Makedonia fans will be enthusiastic over the selection of former Vardar Skopje midfielder Zarko Odzakov. J.U.S.T. fans will be keen to see Zoran Iloski and Zdravko Lujic in action while Heideberg Alexander supporters can enjoy watching Charlie Yankos and Theo Selenidis.

There must be a question mark however, hanging over the NSL select's ability to function effectively as a team unit. The State League select suffers from no such problems. Coach Len McCondry has worked with most players in his squad, is well aware of their capabilities as they are well aware of the type of game expected from them.

Even though the NSL goes into tonight's game as favorite, the State League is my tip to win.

The NSL select boasts bigger names in Australian soccer but the State League select's ability to function more effectively as a team unit will be triumphant.

Tonight's game is a fund raising event for victims of the recent, tragic bushfires which swept south eastern Australia and shattered the hopes and everyday life of many people.

We join with all sections of the soccer media in urging you to attend.

National League Select (with shirt numbers)

1 Dennis Boland (J.U.S.T.)
2 Alan Davidson (Hellas)
3 Charlie Yankos (Heideberg)
4 Jim Kondanos (J.U.S.T.)
5 Steve Blair (Hellas)
6 Tony Selenidis (Hellas)
7 Zarko Odzakov (Makedonia)
8 Alan Whittle (Makedonia)
9 Theo Selenidis (Heideberg)
10 Doug Brown (Hellas)
11 George Campbell (Hellas)
12 Bob Vincent (Heideberg)
13 George McMillan (Makedonia)
14 Zoran Iloski (J.U.S.T.)
15 Zdravko Lujic (J.U.S.T.)
16 Jeff Oliver (Heideberg)

State League Select (with shirt numbers)

1 Lou Denys (Ajax)
2 Peter Lewis (Ajax)
3 Keith Adams (Croatia)
4 Steve Stora (Ajax)
5 Stuart Cannell (Ajax)
6 Jim Williams (Ajax)
7 Jim Rooney (Croydon)
8 Carl Guler (Sunshine-Gorge Cross)
10 David Smallman (Ajax)
11 Tammy Cumming (Croatia)
12 Paul Wade (Croydon)
14 John Dove (Doveton)
15 David Brogan (Croatia)
16 Ian Roodhouse (Box Hill)
22 Sean Keogh (Doveton)

Hulk on the way

Croydon City has signed "The Hulk"!

Not far from jolly green giant of TV fame but Scottish striker Joe Sweeney, expected to arrive within a fortnight. Sweeney, 26, is 5'11" and, obviously, solidly built. He's good in the air, has surprising pace for a big man and never stops running. He's a top class target man with a keen scoring sense.

Footscray J.U.S.T. striker Gus MacLeod and Sweeney scored 60 goals between them in a season in Scottish junior football with Pollok.

Sweeney spent a year at Crystal Palace as an apprentice until home-sickness got the better of him and he returned to his native Scotland. He gave football a rest for a while and became a fireman.

He resumed his playing career with Pollok, the Clydebanks and Partick Thistle.



The men of Croydon, winners of the 1983 Buffalo Cup. Back row: David Singleton, Lou Kastner, Colin Haslar (assistant coach), Mark Brown, Ian Dobson, Gary Hobson, Steve McCombe, Roy Howard (trainer), Ian Loughnane, Mick Edwards, Paul Wade. Front: Reno Lia, Peter Loughnane, Steve Irvine, Steve Rainey, Jimmy Rooney.

PAUL WADE GIVES CROYDON THE CUP

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

CROYDON 1 (P. Rainey 90th) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 0. Buffalo Cup final at Middle Park, Sunday. Crowd: About 2500. Referee: Zoumas 4.

CROYDON: Kastner 7 — Rainey 7, McCombe 7, Dobson 7, Hobson 7 — Brown 7, Rooney 7, Wade 8 — P. Loughnane 7, Irvine 7, Lia 5 (1). **SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS:** Coach: Colin Hassler (Bill McArthur unavailable due to business reasons).

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Perroe 7 — Davidson 7, Kakantonis 8, Kalifatidis 7, Kaiser 6 — van Egmond 5 (Postecoglou 70th), Bozianovski 7, Abram 7 — Kanasoulis 6, Patrakos 7, Kalabokis 7. Coach: Jim Armstrong.

Croydon got its first honor in State League thanks to a combination of factors — South Melbourne Hellas' lack of defensive discipline in the last 10 minutes. Paul Wade's boundless enthusiasm and skill, and Peter Loughnane's 90th minute winner, toooked past advancing Hellas keeper Mark Perree.

Hellas almost scored the decisive goal with two minutes left and extra time odds on.

Tom Patrakos turned and was about to shoot when robbed but the ball rolled wide to Jim Kalabokis. He cut it back from the left of the area to the incoming Peter Abram. As he received the shot from 12 metres, again Patrakos was in possession. Again he had to turn. As he was about to shoot a Croydon defender got a foot in but only succeeded in poking the ball into the path of Tony Kaiser, about six metres out. Kaiser's shot was miraculously saved by Lou Kastner who spread himself well and Hellas had blown its chance of winning the 1983 Buffalo Cup. Croydon played with three

forwards from the outset although Peter Loughnane often lay deep in the first half. For the last 10 minutes however, the three Croydon forwards stayed forward while Hellas, intoxicated by the possibility of snatching the match, pushed forward leaving a three-on-three situation at the back. It paid the supreme penalty.

In the final minute of normal time, Wade leaped above John Kanasoulis, headed down, then quickly regained his balance in time to spot Peter Loughnane in the clear. Wade lobbed the ball over the square Hellas defence, Loughnane ran through and beat Perree from 12 metres out with a low shot. Croydon had won the cup.

Teenage Hellas right winger Mike Rainey, Kalabokis found himself in a few situations where a more confident player would have run at Rainey but the youngster opted to pass the ball, often back, negating his expected value to Hellas.

Pepe Abram didn't appear on the right wing as expected.

Coach Jim Armstrong, noting Abram's success earlier in the Buffalo Cup when given the task of tagging Doveton's right-winger, put the youngster onto Jim Rooney.

Abraam's foul count was the outstanding feature of his game. Sadly, from Hellas' point of view, Abram contributed little in a creative sense.

Nick van Egmond was the most disappointing Hellas midfielder. He gave the ball away often in the first half and on the handful of occasions in which he was in threatening positions, made poor choices with regard to his disposal.

It would be dishonest to suggest that this was an absorbing cup final in the classic sense. Rather, this was a classic war of attrition, neither side being much aware at the back periods of scrappy midfield play where the ball was given away too easily and a few forwards with the flair or skill or running ability to stretch the opposing defence.

Referee Sam Zoumas approached me. I counted at least 15 free kick or throw-in decisions I found baffling. Then there were the free kicks that weren't given. Look, I'm not head hunting Sam but I've got to be honest and say that I joined with many spectators and players in trying to unravel the mystery of some of your decisions. When Jim Rooney gets upset you can bet you'll be blundered, and Rooney questioned a couple of Zoumas' decisions in an unusually forceful fashion.

Let's look at some of the scoring chances.

John Kanasoulis swung in a corner toward the near post in the 15th minute. Steve McCombe and van Egmond were charging in. McCombe hammered the ball over the bar. It was a Croydon corner. Mark Brown and Rainey figured in a defensive mix-up five minutes later but Kalabokis couldn't capitalise. He pushed the ball too far ahead and Kastner cleared.

Steve Irvine was booked in the 30th minute after a foul wrongly was awarded against him. Kris Kalifatidis made the mistake of letting a high ball bounce, allowing Irvine to challenge. The Croydon striker headed past Kalifatidis and was about to break clear when referee Zoumas whistled for a

free kick to Hellas. Irvine was upset, opened his mouth, and was cautioned.

Kastner looked likely to follow Irvine into Zoumas' book a few minutes later when Patrakos barged into the Croydon keeper sending him crashing to the ground. Referee Zoumas awarded a goal kick to Croydon and Kastner remonstrated vociferously, almost earning a caution.

Rainey sent Brown clear down the right in the 58th minute. But he had a poor a defensive and was about to cross when Kakantonis cleared. Wade bundled the ball over the line from the resultant corner but referee Zoumas rightly awarded a free kick to Hellas for a foul on goalkeeper Penne.

Wade, Patrakos and Peter Loughnane all had chances to score but failed. Then Patrakos and Ian Dobson clashed in the centre circle with Dobson being booked. Dobson and Patrakos had failed to the ground after challenging for the ball. Patrakos kicked Dobson who responded with a kick of his own. Zoumas only saw Dobson's indiscretion but merely booked the Croydon sweeper.

Kalabokis got free on the left side of the area with five minutes left. He miscued his shot, sending the ball fizzing across the face of goal. Kastner came out and dived but missed the ball completely. Gary Hobson and Patrakos at the far post almost collided as they challenged for the loose ball which eventually was cleared.

A minute later Kakantonis brought down Loughnane inside the Hellas area. Amazingly referee Zoumas gave a free kick to Croydon outside the penalty box.

But, when Peter Loughnane struck, Hellas had run its race.

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Victorian cup matches Crompton, House oust Melbourne

KNOX CITY 2 (Crompton 1st, House 38th) MELBOURNE 0. Metro League Cup at Egan Lee Reserve.

KNOX CITY: McTark, Dican, Dierling, Schroeder, Reddie (Fitzpatrick 60th), Gurney, Smith, Murray, Leesbile, Crompton, House.

MELBOURNE: Barber, Dagnall, Wild, Gammie, Drimicky, Tapal, Bell, Ammend, Ward, Miller, Hibbit, Suba, Umit, Bird.

BEST: Crompton, Smith, Dizon (Knock); Ward, Wild, Barber (Metabolous).

Eric Leesbile and House set up Crompton in the first minute and the home side went 1-0 up. Chances to House, Crompton and Murray went bogging before House increased Knox's lead in the 38th minute.

A superb Murray through ball to Crompton started the move. Crompton to House and the home side had Melbourne on the ropes.

However, Knox tired in the heat and Melbourne was very unlucky not to strike back when Danny Ward hit the post the bar during a six minute spell of pressure.

Knox will host its annual Heineken Valley Cup Perpetual Trophy day on Sunday, March 13 at Egan Lee Reserve, starting at 11am. Teams competing are: Knox A, Croydon, Moorabark, Nunawading City, Scoresby, Hawksburn, Ringwood, Utd Serbia and Knox B.

The eight contestants will be split into two, four team groups. The final will be played at 3.30 pm and the presentation to the successful

Celtic off

Glasgow Celtic has declined an opportunity to visit Australia in the Scottish close season.

The prospective tour, would have provided a welcome boost to Celtic coffers, but manager Billy McNeill turned it down due to the Scottish national squad's tour of Canada scheduled for the same time.

Even if Scotland fields eleven Celtic players against the Canadians, it will be scant consolation to the thousands of Celtic supporters in Australia.

— PAUL MOON

Junior bosses, titles

Here are the JLMC members for the 1983 season:

L. Starface (chairman), N. Wood (secretary), I. Petherick (treasurer), P. Dillon (peninsula co-ordinator), A. McPhee (eastern co-ordinator), T. Bateman (northern co-ordinator), K. Slack (western co-ordinator), M. Kana (central co-ordinator), P. Cunningham (sub-junior co-ordinator), D. Phillips (fixtures), S. Brown (investigative and disciplinary tribunal), K. Defford (State League colts chairman).

Tony Dunkerley has been appointed to pick an under-12 select from regional games. These boys will be sent through the McDonald's Superskills scheme, which is under the scrutiny of Fred Brooks. Any coach or parent interested in the scheme can contact Fred on 467 6315.

Here are the state team coaches:

A. Gentry (under-13s), A. Alexander (under-14s), T. Newbiggin (under-15s).

The under-13 national titles will be held in Alice Springs starting in late September. Both the under-14 and under-15 national titles will start late in August. The under-14s will be held in Brisbane while the

Coulson wants a club

Willie Coulson has been freed by Croatia Glenorchy and is looking for a club.

The talented midfielder, who played many first team games with English Second Division club Newcastle United, has played with Ringwood Wilhelmina and Frankston City in Victoria.

He's prepared to travel interstate and can be contacted on (03) 762 6245.

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DOVES, HILMEN UNDER THREAT

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

team will be held at 4.30pm. Admission is free and full bar and canteen facilities are available.

Results of last weekend's Metro League Cup matches:

Nth Dandenong 3 Preston Makedonia 0. Altona beat Kringal 3-1 on Saturday, beat Footscray 1 Footscray J.U.S.T. 5; Thomastown 3 Sandringham 2; Rosanna 0 Royal Richmond 6; Essendon Trestina 1 Frankston Pines 3; Hamlyn Rangers 0 Heidelberg Bundoora 1; Western Suburbs 3 Richmond 1; Moorabool 0 Altona City 2; Nth Moorabool 0 Dandenong City 2; Knox City 2, Melbourne 0; Yallourn 5 Kew City 2; Keysborough 0 Hawthorn 1; Rosebud 1 Mornington 5; Prahran 0 Nunawading City 2.

Results of last weekend's Provisional League Cup matches:

Altona Utd 5 Geelong Utd 3; Port Utd 1 Dandenong City 2; Yarraville 4 Abbotsford Tasse 5; Bulleen 5 Dynetton 4; Clayton 4 Lalor 6 Utd 6; Mordialloc-Clarendon 2 South Yarra 1; Holland Park 2 Melton 1; East Brunswick 1 Springvale Utd 2; West Geelong 0 Uni of Melbourne 3; Carlton 3 Macleod 1; Nth Sunshine 4 Moe Utd 2; Hampton Wanderers 0 Boronia 1; Mitcham 2 LYNDale Utd 0; South Dandenong 2 Mossfield Rangers 1; Langwarrin 2, Cheltenham 3.

Results of last weekend's Provisional League Reserve Cup matches:

Mordialloc-Clarendon 7 Cheltenham 1; Holland Park 3 Clifton Hill 1; Chadstone 6 Altona Utd 3; Berwick City Vpton 2; Waverley 0 Dandenong not played; Moorabool to Bulleen, East Brunswick, Ballarat, result not available as we went to press; Hawkeburn 5 Lyndale Utd 0; Moe Utd 1 Clarindra Kooyong 2; East Carlton v Langwarrin, not played, win to Langwarrin; Monbulk 2 Boronia 1 South Dandenong v Bulleen, no result as we went to press; Macleod Utd v Geelong, not played, win to Macleod; West Geelong 2 Brunswick City 3, Yarraville 4 Dingley 1; Uni of Melbourne 2 Carlton 4; Abbotsford Tasse 0 Dandenong Valley 6; Melton 3 Geelong Utd 4.

It's likely that former Frankston City and Mornington stopper Bob Adams, will be given the task of trying to contain the aggressive Stirling. Their clash should be a match highlight.

Young Mark Lennon is the big improver in Doveton's first team squad. The 18 year old, left sided attacker impressed

The Doves are at home to Second Division giant Thomastown in the second of Waratah Reserve's double header and recent Buffalo Cup efforts suggest that Ernie Merrick's outfit will find Altona backed Thomastown a handful.

Merrick could play, as right back Peter Thurlow may not be able to throw off the effects of a leg injury. Doveton striker Stan Webster, recently returned from a holiday in his native Scotland, is also plagued by injury. Webster was battling against an ankle injury and was very doubtful for Sunday's game as we went to press.

Midfielder Mike McIvor is fit and will play in his customary right sided role with star midfielder John Dowling probably playing in centre midfield.

Thomastown coach Jim Klaris sees Dowle and Doveton striker Ian Stirling as the danger men and both will be marked closely.

It's likely that former Frankston City and Mornington stopper Bob Adams, will be given the task of trying to contain the aggressive Stirling. Their clash should be a match highlight.

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Un 'business' fondato sull' entusiasmo.

Sabato sera il lussuoso albergo cittadino del Southern Cross è stato il teatro di due metamorfosi, entrambe dettate dalla fiducia nel futuro, dall'ottimismo, dalla sincera convinzione che la gente è molto più intelligente, entusiasta e cooperativa di quello che altri pensano.

Nel foyer, sulla scalinata e nella sala d'ingresso del salone da ballo la troupe della radio televisione e della stampa, i funzionari di partito e gli uomini politici al seguito di Fraser vivevano le interminabili ore dell'inevitabile passaggio del potere politico a Bob Hawke, l'uomo che aveva fatto del suo lavoro della fiducia nel futuro e dell'intelligenza dell'elettorato le basi del suo programma di grosse spese pubbliche per rimettere la nazione sulla strada del benessere.

Nel salone da ballo la Juventus dava vita al suo ballo di gala per l'apertura della stagione con lo stesso ottimismo, la stessa fiducia nel futuro e lo stesso rispetto per l'intelligenza dei suoi sostenitori, nonostante il clima deficitario

del club e lo stato depresso dello sport del calcio fra l'indifferenza della numerosa comunità italiana.

Il Bal Hawke della Juventus per l'occasione è stata la Signora Silvana Tenace, da poco presidente del sottocomitato femminile, che ha esaltato e affermato: "Idee già esistenti non prese di petto, proprio come Bob Hawke ha fatto con le politiche già elaborate da Hayden ma non espresse in termini netti a trascinanti".

E' proprio quando le cose vanno male che la paternalistica raccomandazione di Fraser: "La vita non è fatta per essere facile", adottata inizialmente da molti alla Juventus, suona scoraggiante e offensiva a coloro che sono disoccupati, nel contesto politico della nazione, o affamati di

VIVA ITALIA!

With ROCKY DI ZIO

successo come nel caso della Juventus.

Un po' di immaginazione, un po' di sforzo, un po' di classe, un po' di rischio e tanta indifferenza per il vecchio ma non sempre applicabile detto "meglio l'uovo oggi che la gallina domani" sono indispensabili per creare quelle basi di successo a lunga scadenza di cui un club ha bisogno.

La Signora Tenace, fortunatamente appoggiata da alcuni dirigenti che hanno capito e con l'entusiastico aiuto delle altre signore del suo comitato, non ha voluto ascoltare i con-

servativi e i pessimisti che nell'attuale clima finanziario del club avrebbero voluto una serata più modesta con un più alto margine di profitto, perche' ogni dollaro conta.

Di parte di questa corrente era inutile far pagare il prezzo esorbitante di \$35 a persona, di cui quasi tutto andava in spese; era inutile sacrificare i partecipanti a quei pesi spese del club quando sono già pagati troppo; sarebbe stato un fallimento organizzare una tale serata che era fuori portata del titolo.

Dalla parte della in belle figure per avere i profitti a lunga scadenza: la necessità di costruire gli entusiasmi attorno ai giocatori che, pagati bene o male, sono sempre i personaggi più importanti del club; che i tifosi sono felici di fare uno sforzo in casi del genere e che in ogni caso sono felici di riflessi se intorno al club c'è un'aria di eccellenza e di ricercatezza.

Alla fin dei conti il tifoso che va alla partita, sotto la pioggia o sotto il sole, in linea generale non ha tanta dimistichezza con le sale di ballo e con le serate di gala, ma apprezzano a cuore aperto chi fa una classe dirigente e un gruppo di sostenitori che elevano il livello sociale del club e che, di riflesso, creano quelle condizioni di entusiasmo e di cooperazione ad alto livello che si tramutano quindi in risultati positivi sul campo. E' questo l'elemento che interessa al tifoso alla resa dei conti.

Se i dirigenti del calcio locale, non solo quelli italiani, riuscissero a capire in che tipo di "business" si trovano, che merce hanno da vendere e che tipi di compratori hanno, le cose andrebbero molto meglio.

Se poi avessero il buon senso e la modestia di guardarsi intorno, imparerebbero dagli sbagli e dai successi di altri che li hanno preceduti o che operano in campi simili.

Prendiamo per esempio il football australiano che, nonostante la sua posizione di predominio, stava andando a rotoli finanziariamente e amministrativamente circa 10-15 anni fa. Per fortuna loro, i responsabili di allora videro la necessità di cambiamenti di impostazione di tutta la baracca. Innanzitutto stabilirono una "professional administration" con le parole di un ampiamente professionisti in tutti i campi, dal "management" alle relazioni pubbliche, dal reclutamento alla raccolta dei fondi. Quindi, con questo team di veri esperti ben pagati cominciarono a vendere il loro sport come grande spettacolo, come un modo di vivere, come un qualcosa di attraente al quale tutti desiderano associarsi. E così vennero i grandi sponsor, i grandi spettacoli a regia della Gran Finale, i grandi personaggi creati e messi in scena, la funzione dei veri professionisti. E il piccolo tifoso, che in gran numero è sempre l'elemento fondamentale di ogni sport, ha risposto con entusiasmo e con maggiore assiduità.

Il "business" del calcio è basato sull'entusiasmo, che in effetti è la merce da vendere ai tifosi e sostenitori. Una merce che non richiede materie prime, non richiede fabbriche dove essere prodotta né negozi e personale per venderla.

Ad alcune persone che insistevano sulla natura del "business" del calcio e sulla importanza di ogni dollaro, usavo dire, quando ero ancora coinvolto con la Juventus: "Sono venuto da te con un distintivo e una cravatta che valevano tutto assieme \$10 e mi hai dato un assegno di \$250 come membro del Gold Pass Club. Quale altro "business" può vendere a tale profitto? Ti hai pagato, non per la

cravatta e il distintivo che vedi, ma per l'entusiasmo che io o altri sono riusciti a venderti!"

E che dire poi degli "sponsori" che hanno pagato \$3,000 sempre per l'entusiasmo che si è venduto loro e non per lo striscione pubblicitario al campo e altre piccole iniziative che valgono molto meno?

Alla base della maggiore fonte di entusiasmo c'è sempre un'ambizione vincente. Per questo che due settimane fa scrivo con emozione della grande occasione persa dalla Juventus nel non avere fatto tutto il possibile per cercare il successo nell'Ampol Cup. Ecco sarebbe stato a portata di mano, avrebbe costato poco, avrebbe fruttato molto in termini finanziari immediati e avrebbe prodotto tante entusiasmi da poter vendere a grossi profitti per tutto il resto dell'anno e che sarebbe stato il primo anello di una catena di successi e profitti che non possono mai essere kivisi l'uno dall'altro.

E con questa concorrenza da fronteggiare il calcio va sempre avanti con una così chiamata "professional administration" fatta in effetti di incapaci dilettanti che non riescono nemmeno a capire che tipo di merce debbono vendere.

E per tornare alla Juventus, sabato sera il mancato profitto dal ballo, già in serata è stato più che bilanciato da due nuovi sponsor fra i presenti in sala che hanno comprato per \$36,000 l'ente che non si era fatto offrire di un cent in denaro per i giocatori per un totale di circa \$2,000; dalla totteria che crediamo abbia fruttato qualcosa come \$3,000 fra gente che ha presto fatto esaurire tutti i biglietti a \$2 l'uno perché presi dall'entusiasmo dell'occasione, e dai \$1,000 spesi all'asta dall'entusiasta acquirente della giacca di visone ridata al club entusiasticamente dalla Signora Schiavone che l'aveva vinta alla lotteria.

Se poi auguriamo soltanto che questo modo di fare, che non è più nuovo, ma si è dimostrato più convinto grazie alla Signora Tenace, non venga distrutta quando i responsabili del club faranno i conti del ballo in se' stesse e si accorgono che hanno guadagnato poco o niente. Speriamo che tengano presente i guadagni finanziari immediati che abbiamo elencato e quelli che verranno continuando per questa strada. Giusto per non incaricarci che deriva direttamente dalla scatola di voti, per 14 mila ragazzi nel concorso di Mahoneys, con l'entusiasmo guadagnato in questa serata di gala da loro stesse e dai loro sponsor, potrebbero portare nelle casse della Juventus qualcosa come \$50,000 alla fine dell'anno.

E non parliamo dell'entusiasmo dei giocatori e degli allenatori che sabato sera hanno avuto, per la prima volta in tanti anni, la sensazione di appartenere ad un grande club. E questo anche conta molto.

Per concludere, e non solo in relazione alla Juventus, voglio puntualizzare ancora la base essenziale del successo nel "business" dello sport: entusiasmo creato con una squadra vincente e in tanti altri modi; incoraggiato da dirigenti che hanno il dono di saper trattare con la gente su un livello umano e sociale e senza il palmo di comandare o di vendicarsi; sfruttato in modo veramente professionale da esperti e non da volenterosi direttori di capitale specifiche; fermato da un coraggio di investire, o di perdere, oggi per guadagnare domani.

Prendiamo poi il caso del South Melbourne (o Sydney SWans), un club decaduto e fallimentare che ebbe il coraggio di andare contro tradizioni e correnti popolari e andarsene a Sydney per operare in un campo più fertile. E dopo un breve periodo di transizione nominava l'ex ministro statale Brian Dixon come direttore generale ad uno stipendio favoloso di \$100,000 all'anno (molto di più di quanto prendeva come assistente). I risultati si sono già visti con lo



sponsorship del club che è salato da alcune centinaia di migliaia a quattro milioni di dollari.

Ora la VFL vuole cambiare anche l'assetto della federazione nominando alla direzione federale "esperti indipendenti per rimpiazzare i delegati del club".

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Westad home

Defending SA Ampol Cup champion West Adelaide gained a semi final berth after a fiery 1-0 win over Croatia which is now in danger of elimination.

WEST ADELAIDE 1 (Abbas 11m) CROATIA 0 (None)

Goals: Dunc, Gibson, Arnett, Dunc, Gibson, Arnett, Arnett, Hays, Warday, Belicic (penalty).

CROATIA: Bresal — Hulic, Pekic, Marin, Hasic — Lovric, Hasic (penalty), Cugajevic — Stanojevic, Cvetkovic, Stanojevic, Stanojevic, Stanojevic, Stanojevic.

AZZURRI: Miller — Cale, Battahler, Mihalec, Franci — Gavrilovic, Komadina, Tihomir — Kralj, Kralj, Kralj.

REGORAD: Adam — Gavrilovic, Komadina, Tihomir — Kralj, Kralj.

AZZURRI: Miller — Cale, Battahler, Mihalec, Franci — Gavrilovic, Komadina, Tihomir — Kralj, Kralj.

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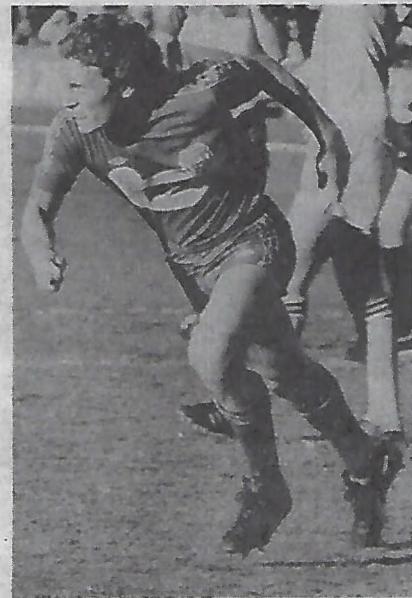
NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA

Presents

ROUND ONE

HEIDELBERG
v
LEICHHARDT

at
OLYMPIC VILLAGE
K.O. 3 pm



Heidelberg v Leichhardt
Previous results

'79 2-1
'80 5-1
'81 1-0
'82 3-2

FOOTSCRAY

v
PRESTON

at
SCHINTLER RESERVE
K.O. 3 pm



Footscray v Preston

Previous results
'81 2-1
'82 0-1

